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TOPIC OF THE MONTH.

WHAT is THE TOPIC OF THE MONTH? or rather, what *has* been? for the month, the December month, is sliding fast away; and before these lucubrations meet the public eye, it will be gone, and, with it, gone the year! They will be gone—the fraction and the integer of that brief span, ad-measured in the periodic calendar, will have mingled with the retrospective tide of those have been “to-morrows, and to-morrows, and to-morrows,” which, as our great dramatic moralist expresses it, “creeps in this petty space from day to day,” lighting us “the way to dusty death.”

But, for our moon-span record—*what* is the Topic? Has it *one*?—for it is not every month that furnishes a topic, to which the discriminative, the comprehensive, the identifying article can properly be affixed. There is not always *one*, among the brood of marvels, which,

“Like Aaron’s serpent, swallows up the rest.”

It is a wonder of more than ordinary birth which lives through one-third of the designated period. At the beginning, we should have said it was the decision of the Judges upon the subject of Police Reports; though the priority might, perhaps, with fearful reasoning, have been disputed by the apprehension of consequences in Ireland, from the conflicting rashness of theological controversy—intemperately urged, and as intemperately encountered. But both these topics have passed, for awhile, away: they have not died, however; they only sleep: they must awake again, and public attention must awaken to them. It may not be long before we are called upon to blow the trumpet in that direction; but it shall be that which summons to the tribunal of investigation and judgment; not that which urges to the field of conflict. These are both vital questions: the one involving the rights of conscience, and the hopes of peace and civilization, in a moiety of the realm; the other affecting some of the dearest liberties and securities of the whole. There will be no lack of matter for the elucidation of

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either of these topics, when the day of opportune discussion shall arrive. In the mean time our admonition is, to those who have leisure for meditation or means of research,—look well to the facts, and their consequences, of past experience; and beware of bigotted animosities, of secret inquisitions, and of lions’ mouths.

The forces upon conscience in the marriage ritual, and the anomaly of making the temporary profession of a specific creed the only medium of redemption from concubinage and bastardy, in a country which comprizes *all* creeds, and talks of toleration, has perhaps been the predominant topic with a portion of the community, and may come again into more general discussion: but enough of this, for the present, will probably be found in other departments of this miscellany; and, perhaps, among our correspondents, the topic is not likely to slumber.

The circumstances and disclosures of a recent trial constitute apparently the prevailing topic of *the day*; and may do so till it is drowned in the wassail cup, amid the festivities of the season. Jollity, and good cheer, *with all to whom the MEANS are not denied*, must then, for awhile, be the object and the theme; and as George Alexander Stephens, of merry memory, expresses it,

“The only matter we shall mind,
Is he who drinks or drinks not.”

Upon the topic alluded to, however, it were easy to be tempted to expatiate: it is not easy to avoid pondering upon it, and with some depth of feeling; and there is much, perhaps, that ought to be said. But the ground is delicate; for it is personal ground, and not readily to be trod without verging towards the domain that belongs to the tittle-tattle of scandal. Much *will* be said, from a variety of motives, that it were better should die in silence. The pages of the M. M., however, must not be stained with apologies for such transactions as have been revealed in this investigation. Nor must we trample on the fallen. Sex and beauty, however betrayed to degradation, have still some hold upon a manly sympathy; and a daughter’s attachment to

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to her parents,*—a mother's reluctance to be separated, for ever, from her children, have something in them that breathes of atoning grace; and if they do not exactly "plead like angels trumpet-tongued," against all condemnation, they may justify, at least, the tear that drops upon the fouler part of the record, and wash away some blackness from the offence. But what shall we say of the parents themselves?—of the father, who should be the jealous guardian—the mother, who should be the watchful nurse, of a daughter's purity?—The pen falls from our hands! We cannot enter into the disgusting detail!

And has there been no other topic, then, for the month of December, worthy of memorial descant?—nothing beyond an execution or a suicide?—a police report, the bankruptcy of a gaming-house hell, or the scaring of a horse by a wooden conspiracy between Punch and his Wife and the Baker?†

* It appears from the letters which Colonel Berkeley has deemed it necessary to publish, for his own justification, that Miss Foote "would not give up her parents, even to become his wife." We are glad, for the honour of manhood, that Colonel Berkeley could defend, in some degree at least, his *gallantry*. Had his conduct been such as, till the publication of these documents, it appeared, his would have been even the blackest name in the calendar. How much or how little soever of seduction there might be in the first instance, he who hath been to any maiden that which, according to the righteous law of Moses, would have made her indissolubly his wife, and could afterwards, not only not conceal, but, voluntarily and officiously disclose, the tender familiarities that had passed between them, must sink, in all generous estimation, below the rank of manhood, and should herd only with the vilest of the vile. Perhaps, even as the matter now stands, a little more forbearance would have added more to the generosity, than it would have detracted from the correctness of the transaction.

† Because an accident (rather a serious one) happened to occur the other day, by a horse taking fright at the squeaking of Mr. Punch, some of those strait-waistcoat-mongers, who are always ready to cry out for general laws and restrictions, on the pretence of partial inconveniences, are for having our merry old friend put down, by act of parliament,—or "act of police!" For our parts we are not disposed to part so lightly with this only remaining relic of the ancient drama, and sacred mysteries of our forefathers. We would have Pontius Pilate (especially as the Pope himself, and all his cardinals, have been pleased to spare

Yes—there is a topic, not only for the month, but for months and months to come;—a topic, which attracts the attention, and employs the speculations of many, and ought to be inquired into, till it is understood, by all;—a topic, which involves considerations little cared for, perhaps, by many, and comprehended in their consequences by very, very few;—a topic, in some of its ramifications, as menacing to the social and moral interests of the community, in the event of successful speculation, as, in others, to the property of deluded individuals,

him, and the very puritans could not quite knock the brains out of his mirth-making wooden scull!—We would have him still play off his traditionary tricks, to the end of time, without let, suit, or hinderance, either from the legislators of St. Stephen's, or the beadies of St. James's or St. Luke's; maugre all the startlish *bits of blood* which the former may occasionally bestride, or all the magisterial authority the latter may be so fond of shewing. We have a sort of constitutional affection for Mr. Punch, we freely confess; and think him quite as entertaining, and nearly as rational a buffoon, as those whom we go occasionally, with wives and daughters, in their best bibs and tuckers, to be amused with, in our great national theatres; or as those, even, who sometimes exhibit in still higher and still graver places: and we would not have him put down. We see no reason why the poor penny, or, pennyless children of our humble mechanics should not have their Mr. Punch, from his itinerant theatre of three-feet square, to amuse them in the streets,—as well as the Eton holiday children, and the opulent grown babies, of either sex, who accompany them, should have theirs in the gay, great areas of Covent-garden and Drury-lane, or of any other theatre. Nor do we see any reason why a new gagging-bill should be framed to stop the mouth of this legitimate descendant of the sacred drama, because he happened once to scare horse and rider out of their senses, to the breaking of a leg or so, more than why a prohibitory law should be passed against balance-rollers to the drop-curtains of Theatres Royal, because poor Miss Povey happened to be almost knocked o' the head by one of them on Wednesday night last; or against the gigs and blood horses of the bucks or dandies of *haut ton*, because we once happened to see a poor woman almost dashed to pieces by the broken pole with which one of these startlish bits of blood was tearing away, in the fury of his panic speed, up Grosvenor-place. No, no! we must not have our old friend Mr. Punch put down, in compliment to a startled horse!

viduals, in the eventual explosion of the bubbles. We allude, of course, to those joint Stock Companies which are at this time endemic in the money-market of the Stock Exchange; are spreading in every direction, and grasping at the monopoly of almost every species of concern.

This is a topic to which our attention has been for some time seriously directed; upon which we have already before us more communications than we have had time to read, and have collected, from various quarters, facts and documents as bases for the calculations by which part of the subject must be illustrated; and, if attention to other arrangements necessary to the furtherance of those improvements, which, we trust, it will be apparent are in progress in this miscellany, had afforded leisure to digest the materials accumulated, we should have entered upon it in the present number. But these circumstances, together with the want of space, compel us to adjourn to the next the exposure of a system of moonlight speculation, which, in filling the pockets of projectors at the expense of unhappy dupes, beats the philosopher's stone all to nothing, and puts to shame the fables of fairy gold and the wonders of Prospero's wand. Δ

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR:

IN this speculating, scheming, acquiescing, and unthinking age, in which the periodical press has become a pandering instrument to every prevailing scheme, and to every assertion emanating from the authority of money influence, as well as to every prurient and vicious taste, I have, I believe, in common with the greater portion of the readers of the *Monthly Magazine*, been in the habit of viewing it as an honourable and distinguished exception to the prevailing perversion, and time-serving character, of the press in general. It has, therefore, been with pain that I have noticed, in the two or three last numbers of your work, a destitution of that characteristic of "thinking for yourself," which has, from its very commencement, formed its peculiar, interesting, and most important feature.

I am no flatterer: nor do I mean to say that, in thinking differently, you alone have always thought correctly; but dogmatical and erroneous as your inferences and conclusions have, some-

times, been, they have never failed to throw additional light, on the subject to which they referred.

I beg to be understood, as not at all applying these observations to that part of your publication, composed of the communications of your correspondents, but exclusively to that part, for which it is usual to consider the Editor, alone, responsible: and in this department there are three articles in your November number, to which I cannot refrain from re-directing your attention. The first is at page 359, relating to a pamphlet of Mr. Say; the second (p. 360) relating to what you have been pleased to term (by copying) the *Poyais bubble*; and the third, at page 370, under the head of "Political Affairs."

The first, relating to Mr. Say, has been copied nearly *verbatim* from a daily paper, as unworthy for the asserting and presuming tone, in which it promulgates its dogmas, as it is for the insolent tone, in which it so frequently indulges against individuals. It is not, however, to the privilege of availing of matter or of information, which may appear in any cotemporary publication, of which I complain: with that I have no right to interfere; nor do I make the pretension:—it is to the utter unworthiness of the subjects, that I wish my observations to be considered as applying. Mr. Say is held forth as "one of the ablest political economists in Europe," (on the continent, you have expressed it): it is true that the term "political economist" is somewhat of undefined import, respecting which no two persons will be found to agree, if two ever can be found to give any definition at all—which, by the bye, judging from all that we have seen and heard on the subject, is problematical. Assuming, however, that by political economist is meant one who understands the relations and the *right* administration of the varied interests of society: if, conformable to this position, Mr. Say's understanding is to be judged, it is hardly possible to adduce a stronger instance of presumption and false conclusion than that which he has exhibited in the pamphlet adverted to.

Mr. Say's conclusion is, that, by the possession of India, the East-India Company lose two millions, more or less, annually; whilst its servants gain, perhaps, to the amount of half a million. In drawing this conclusion, Mr. Say's understanding has obviously been confined to the mere governing relation

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of India with England, mixed up with confused ideas about India bonds. The absolute result, to England, from its relation with India, on an average of the last ten to fifteen years, has not been less than from five to six or seven millions pounds sterling per annum; that is, there has been an excess of the products of the soil and labour of India, to the money value above stated, annually imported into England, beyond the value of what has been exported from England to India. If Mr. Say has thought at all, of the induction of the products of India into England, he has thought of it in a trading sense: but the induction does not take place, entirely, on trading principles, but on principles which virtually resolve themselves into *tribute*, though without the name or imputation of tribute. I could make this part of the subject more clear and satisfactory by amplification; but it would exceed the limits of your columns to do it justice: I must, therefore, forbear enlarging upon it.

With respect to the Poyais question, I shall say but little: I notice it, as a mere echo from the same unworthy source, from which the preceding article was derived. Of either party, involved in the question, I know nothing. The question at issue, however, seems to be this:—Two parties come in collision with each other, one stronger than the other; the weaker party charge the stronger with depredation committed: and what follows? The party accused institute an investigation of the charges alleged against them, and report *themselves* not guilty. May be so. But I must say, and I doubt not but that, on reflection, you will concur with me in thinking, that a grosser insult was never offered to common sense and the understandings of Englishmen, than to hold up a party reporting *themselves* innocent of charges alleged against them, as a proof of the charges being unfounded, and thereby subjecting the complaining party to the most unqualified invective. Moreover, compare the Poyais adventure with that to South Africa, or to the Spanish loan in 1823. “Fair play’s a jewel.”

The article under the head of “Political Affairs,” being of the most general nature, merits more earnest regard. It is not a mere echo of one; for the same expressions have resounded from one end of the kingdom to the other, and graced or disgraced (it remains to be seen which) the columns of

every existing periodical publication, pretending to generalization: and, if the axiom be just, “that, what every body says is true, must be true,” you may perhaps plead *truth* in arrest of judgment; but the inferences and conclusions, which you have drawn from certain items, are not true. You say that the account of the last quarter’s revenue is replete with matter for universal congratulation: that the augmentation in the Customs is—so much; and that they bear unquestionable testimony to the increasing comfort of the British people. Would to God that it were so!—but it is not. It is true that the commercial operations of the last twelve or eighteen months exceed in extent those of any former period: but what does it prove? Commerce is never long stationary; it has made the same order of advance, times and oft, and, with every alternation, left the great body of the British people involved in deeper and still deeper misery; and, assuredly, the next alteration will be more fatal than any of the preceding.

The following is a list of the several articles which produced the increase of Custom’s duty in the last year, viz.

Timber, Deals, &c.....	£242,500
Coals and Coastways.....	131,000
Cotton Wool	70,000
Sheep’s do.....	58,000
Hemp	38,000
Ashes and Barilla	94,000
Bark Oak	12,000
Turpentine	16,000
Mahogany	13,000
Indigo	7,000

TOTAL.....£681,500

Sugar	440,000
Molasses	41,100
Cheese and Butter.....	15,200
Wine	51,000
Raisins	34,700
Oranges and Lemons.....	10,270

TOTAL.....£1,273,770

Nor what is there, in the first division of these articles, that implies any increase of comfort to the British people. The vast increase in sugar, on a *prima facie* view of the subject, does seem to imply something like an increase of comfort, but it is fallacious, for large as the increase may seem, on the preceding year, it only exceeds the year 1817 by 54,928*l*, and the year 1808, since when the number of consumers have increased nearly 30 per cent., it only exceeds by 202,466*l*, which is only 5 per cent.; and further, the amount of duty paid is not evidence

evidence of consumption: the ruinously low price of sugar to the grower, and the conviction, on the part of the dealer, that the price of the commodity cannot be lower, may have led to an accession of stock, in the hand of the dealers, and one month's consumption, only, is more than sufficient to account for all the excess of duty, in the latter year. The same cause, of increased stock in the hand of dealers, aided by the renewed operation of paper money credit, will account for all the accession of duty which has taken place, on all articles, in both Customs and Excise, without any increase of consumption. With respect to the increase on coals, it is only 53,552*l.* more than in 1818, and the increased consumption for gas, since that year, is more than sufficient to account for the increase, without an additional spark of fire to comfort the British people; and as regards the increase of duty on timber, it may be remembered that, in 1821, the rate of duty on timber from Europe was reduced 10*s.* per load, and that from America charged with 10*s.* per load, which previously was duty free: now the proportion from America is as 3 to 1 from Europe, so that, on a fair investigation, the increase of duty, on timber, is seen to resolve itself into an increase of rate and increased burthen of taxation, and resolving itself, as all taxation does, however indirect and insidious its operation, into labour and the products of labour. The most opposite conclusions to those which you have laid down, will, on a full and fair investigation of the subject in question, prove to be just and true; that is, as far as the comforts of the great body of the people are concerned; that partial interests will be promoted, by every alternate expansion or advance of commercial operations, is a matter of course, being a consequence inseparable from the speculative principle on which the financial and commercial polity of the country is founded. An attentive examination of the article, inserted at pages 335-6 of that number, will in itself suffice to shew, as far as the extensive branch of manufacture, there adverted to, is concerned, that, instead of an increase of comfort to the British people, their increased energy resolves itself into an increase of exertion and labour, for diminished reward. To substantiate, to demonstration, the various positions which I have here advanced, would exceed the limits of your miscellany, nor do I in-

dulge the hope of what I have said sufficing, to any great extent, to allay the mistake and delusion which so universally prevails, relating to the political and social condition of the British people. But if I should succeed in bringing back the Monthly Magazine to its wonted habitude, in all cases, and on all subjects of paramount importance, "of thinking for itself," my object will be accomplished, and future opportunity may occur for more ample and satisfactory elucidation and proof of the various positions here, in such general terms, advanced. A. L. L.

[We are equally obliged to this correspondent for his judicious remarks on the arithmetical sophistry of official *exposés* of revenue prosperity, and for his merited castigation of an unprecedented transcription of leading articles from a newspaper, into those departments of a miscellany which ought to breathe the original sentiments and deliberate convictions of the Editor's own mind. We embrace, with promptitude, the opportunity thus afforded of assuring our readers, that there is not, at present, any likelihood of the recurrence of any such cause of complaint. The portion of our Miscellany allotted to correspondence, is open, of course, to liberal controversy; and may, and should present, occasionally, not only great diversity, but absolute contrarieties of opinion: for we know of no subject or question (however settled our own opinions concerning it may be) upon which "hear both sides" is not a good maxim. For opinions and sentiments coming in this epistolary shape, we acknowledge no responsibility—except the responsibility of discretion, in the avoidance of topics inconsistent with the general plan and object of our publication—such for example, as might give to it either a theological or anti-theological—a metaphysically speculative, rather than a practically useful character. Barring such subjects of probable offence to public feeling, and such as might lead us too far from the direct and obvious paths of usefulness, the correspondence portions of our pages are, we repeat, open to the utmost freedom of discussion; and for the sentiments therein, as A.L.L. has liberally admitted, we are in no respect answerable—unless so far as we may render ourselves so, by avowed concession or comment. But in the editorial departments, whether critical or political, we

we hold it an imperious obligation, that nothing, except in the shape of acknowledged and illustrative quotation, shall appear, but what originates in our own research, and is conformable with our own judgment and conviction. But Editors of magazines, and other periodicals, have a body politic as well as a body natural:—officially, indeed, like kings, they never die, till the state itself dissolves. *Sylvanus Urban* still continues to live the Methusalem life of centuries; and *Mr. Editor of the Monthly Magazine* hopes to be alike immortal. But whatever may be the lot of the body politic, the body natural is liable to mutation and mortality: and, perhaps, it may be sufficiently apparent, without either tolling bell or trumpet proclamation, that one or two such demises have, within a short time, occurred in our magazine state; and as, in our present person, according to the established example of greater potentates, we commence our accessional career with liberal promises of restoring whatever was good, improving whatever was improvable, and reforming whatever was censurable, in all former administrations of our office; so we request of the whole of our good people, correspondents, subscribers, and readers in general, not to lay to our charge any of the offences of our predecessors, or to suspect us of being capable of drawing into precedent any the least, of the mal-practices of any of the former administrators of our editorial functions. To our correspondent A.L.L., in particular, we readily concede all his objections. Whatever may be our opinion of the Poyais project and expedition, we cannot admit that an acquittal of an accused party by a tribunal of the accused, is to them any acquittal at all, or throws any satisfactory light whatever upon the subject of accusation. Neither do we give our implicit consent to the conclusiveness of that logical induction which is attempted to be arithmetically drawn from custom-house returns, and fiscal details and calculations. We do not admit that revenual amounts, and what is even called national prosperity, are inevitably identified. Still less do we admit, that what is called national prosperity—i. e. the increasing opulence of the already opulent classes—necessarily includes the idea of the increasing comfort and bettered accommodation of the people: for the days are yet too recent to be forgotten—we should

be glad to be convinced, that even, yet, they have passed entirely away—when these two assumed concomitants were directly in inverse progression—when the miseries and privations of the people increased, in parallel proportion to the augmentation of the rent-rolls of proprietors, and the profits of capitalists. But these are topics which no one, we believe, is more capable of demonstratively illustrating than our correspondent A.L.L. himself. To his care and elucidation we recommend and resign them, with the unqualified admission, that the proof of real and genuine national prosperity must be demonstrated, not by the reported increase of revenue from customs and taxation, but from authenticated facts of the condition, comfort and accommodation of the great mass, or industrious classes of the community.—EDIT.]

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR:

WILL you allow me, through the medium of your widely circulated publication, to request some accurate information respecting

Samuel Ward, Master of Sydney College, Cambridge, afterwards Bishop; but of what Diocese, I am not aware.

Thomas Goad, D. D.; and

Walter Balcanqual, B. D.; who were three of the Theologians sent to the Synod of Dort, at the commencement of the 17th century?

Yours, &c. Q.

For the Monthly Magazine.

On the COMPARATIVE EXPENSES of TOLL ROADS in different COUNTIES;—and QUERIES on M'ADAMIZING STREETS.

A PAPER lately printed by order of the House of Commons, contains important information respecting the extent of *turnpike roads* in each of the several English counties, and in Scotland and in Wales, with the corresponding annual revenue and expenditure of each: but the official table of these particulars contains no column shewing the same expenditure *per mile*. I have, therefore, been at the pains to calculate these with care, and have altered the arrangement of the table from an alphabetical one, to a classification of the several counties, and each principal division and total of our island, in the order of the comparative expensiveness of its public roads. This table follows below, and will, I think, need no explanation

explanation beyond mentioning, that the numbers in the second column express pounds sterling and cents of a pound (wherein, consequently, the units which follow the dot express two shillings each exactly, and those in the second place, twopence-halfpenny each—sufficiently near for practical purposes: thus £149. 14s., and £144. 8s. 5d., are

the two first sums, &c.) Also, the numbers in columns four and five express pounds; and in the latter column, + prefixed to a sum expresses a surplus beyond the expenditure in the preceding column; and — so prefixed, denotes a deficiency (*i. e.* an excess of this expenditure) above the year's income, from tolls, statute-duty, or compositions.

A COMPARATIVE VIEW of the AVERAGE EXPENSE PER MILE, of maintaining the TURNPIKE ROADS in the different Counties and Kingdoms of Great Britain, in the Year ending October 1823, the Length of Road, the Total Expense, and the Excess or Defect of Income above or below the Expense.

COUNTIES, &c.	Expense per Mile.	Miles of Road.	Expenditure.	Income + or — their Expenditure.
	£. Cents.		£	£.
Surrey	149.70	281	42,066	+ 2,140
Herts	144.42	170	24,551	— 2,255
Lancaster	125.89	640	80,574	— 2,829
Kent	102.09	615	62,784	— 7,571
Essex	95.77	247	23,655	+ 3,612
Bedford	72.22	248	17,993	— 10
Northampton	71.09	358	25,450	— 7,783
Sussex	70.92	616	43,688	— 11,470
York	69.89	1,426	99,658	— 11,476
Huntingdon	68.99	146	10,073	— 1,965
Bucks	60.97	246	14,998	+ 186
Oxford	58.28	342	19,930	+ 945
Worcester	54.85	758	41,574	+ 754
Middlesex	54.81	157	86,050	+ 9,505
ENGLAND—40 Counties	54.68	18,329	1,002,194	+ 45,215
Cambridge	53.07	278	14,754	+ 2,409
Somerset	50.06	756	37,845	+ 4,800
GREAT BRITAIN—84 Counties	48.79	21,531	1,196,925	+ 17,791
Berks	47.28	319	15,082	+ 336
Wilts	46.81	583	27,289	+ 997
Chester	44.12	348	15,354	+ 4,969
Leicester	43.95	445	19,556	— 1,233
Durham	43.62	359	15,660	+ 3,562
Stafford	42.78	627	26,820	+ 2,320
Lincoln	42.37	537	22,752	+ 1,813
SCOTLAND—32 Counties	42.32	3,611	152,820	— 23,185
Devon	37.81	783	29,603	— 215
Nottingham	36.17	301	10,887	+ 1,942
Warwick	36.00	460	16,559	+ 3,887
Gloucester	35.11	897	31,494	+ 20,064
Hants	33.87	797	26,992	— 357
Rutland	32.11	18	578	— 112
Derby	31.61	568	17,952	— 4,736
Suffolk	31.60	279	8,815	+ 776
Dorset	29.85	347	10,357	— 168
Cumberland	28.62	215	6,153	+ 338
Northumberland	26.80	499	13,372	— 287
Norfolk	26.16	271	7,090	+ 3,322
Cornwall	24.98	312	7,792	+ 931
Hereford	23.39	540	12,630	+ 1,011
Monmouth	22.59	315	7,116	— 1,145
Salop	22.03	930	20,485	— 780
Westmoreland	21.70	284	6,163	— 132
WALES—12 Counties	16.18	2,591	41,911	— 4,239

The very great, and in some cases excessive, difference of expense *per mile* for maintaining the roads, is visible in

column two; as, for instance, it appears that every mile of road in *Surrey* costs as much, annually, as 9½ miles do in *Wales*! The

The seventeen English counties last mentioned in the Table, from *Devon* to *Westmoreland* inclusive, average only £29.44 per mile; whilst the first five counties therein, from *Surrey* to *Essex* inclusive, average £123.57: so that each mile in the first enumerated five counties, costs very nearly $5\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as one mile in the latter seventeen counties! But what seems to me the most extraordinary result of this Table is, to see the roads in *Lancashire* (although hard limestone abounds in its northern parts) exceeding in expense per mile, the average of the roads in the four counties surrounding the metropolis; while, at the same time, these suffer the greatest degree of wear (*Middlesex* excepted, whose expenses seem moderate) of any roads in the whole kingdom: these four counties are, at the same time, the very worst circumstanced in the whole island, for procuring, cheaply, materials of *sufficient hardness and durability* for the repair of the main roads; the *brittleness of flints*, the only sufficiently hard material they possess (except a very few *blue cores* of the Kentish rag-stone, about Maidstone, and an equally limited quantity of the weald-clay marble, in the southern parts of Kent and Surrey), renders these silicious nodules, especially when shattered and partly perished in the gravel-pits, quite unable to resist great pressure from the wheels of heavy carriages, without being *crushed down* into minute splinters, to be removed from the road *as sand*: as has long happened on the main roads about Stratford in Essex, to the extent of ten inches or more thick annually, of this flinty gravel, quite clean sifted!

What also places the enormity of this Lancashire road expenditure in an equally, if not a yet more striking point of view, is, a comparison of it with the expenditure of *Cheshire*, which adjoins it upon its whole southern end, and is, in my estimation, the county the next worst circumstanced as to road materials, after the counties I have already mentioned, and the others in the south-east part of England, and on the eastern coast:* even this unfavourably-circum-

* These counties were forced nearly to rely on *brittle flinty gravel* for their roads, before the great modern improvements, here, of importing, by ships or canals, *hard and tough quarry-stones*, to be broken small for the roads; the latter a practice, throughout most of the northern English counties (see *Derbyshire Report*, vol. iii. pp. 260, 278, &c.) of thirty to forty years' standing, and

stanced county (*Cheshire*), which has but one small limestone-quarry within its extensive bounds, and very few other quarries of stone *sufficiently hard and tough* for roads, expends on 2.85 miles of road, no more money than the *Lancashire* people and travellers are charged for one mile of road, on the average!! Lastly, as compared with *Yorkshire*, on its eastern border, the two counties being, as to stone, about on a par, we find the *Lancashire* expense little short of double the other, per mile!

In searching for the cause of this anomaly, are we to glance at the anomalous mode of nominating its magistracy? From whence, according to some, have seemed to have grown its apparent irresponsibility.

Why do the *Gloucestershire* trustees continue a rate of tolls so high, as to leave them a surplus, considerably exceeding the aggregate surplus of Great Britain, and almost half the aggregate surplus of England? The above and other queries and considerations will, I doubt not, strike many of your able correspondents, whose sentiments I should much like to read on this interesting subject. — I am your's, &c.

JOHN FAREY, Mineral Surveyor.
Howland-street, 2d Nov. 1824.

P.S.—I beg to ask some of your legal readers, who may happen to be conversant with the provisions of the Metropolis Paving Act, the 57 Geo. III. c. 29, and with the local acts for the collecting of rates for, and the laying down and maintaining, *the pavement* in London,—whether the persons now madly bent on *taking-up and destroying the paving-stones*, in order to make carriage-roads (wholly without the provisions of these acts) of the *PAVED streets, squares, &c.* (which alone these acts embrace), are not acting *illegally* (as well as most injuriously, as observed in p. 301 of your last volume), so as to subject themselves to indictments or criminal informations for their acts? As also, whether the payers of rates, in any of the districts where this destruction of materials, purchased by former rates, is going on, have not herein a good ground of *appeal against future rates*, on the ground of misapplication of the money so to be raised?

pursued as long by scores of road-makers, from whom this good practice has been borrowed: yet the public mistakenly lavishes its praises and emoluments on an individual, as being its inventor.

For the Monthly Magazine.

On the INQUISITION of SPAIN.

THE Inquisition of Spain was an institution of a new species; it had no model in the whole history of the world, and is not to be compared with any other civil or ecclesiastical tribunal. Various sorts of inquisitions have existed since human reason dared to scrutinize opinions which were held sacred; since sceptics and innovators appeared in the world: but not till the middle of the thirteenth century, when some instances of heresy terrified the hierarchy. Innocent III. erected, in behalf of that hierarchy, an exclusive tribunal, and separated, in an unnatural manner, the priestly government from the executive power. In order to make it the more certain, that neither human feeling nor any bribe should soften the rigour of its statutes, Innocent took the administration of the sacred office from the bishops and secular clergy, who clung to humanity by the ties of social life, and placed it in the hands of monks: a degenerated class of the human race, who solemnly renounce the sacred dictates of nature, and devote themselves as the servile creatures of the Roman see. Germany, Italy, Spain, Portugal and France successively received it; a Franciscan monk presided at the tribunal when the horrible judgment was pronounced on the Templars; and only few states have succeeded either in excluding the Inquisition entirely from their dominions, or in submitting it to the civil authorities. The Netherlands remained free until the reign of Charles V.; for its bishops exercised the spiritual controul, and only in extraordinary cases applied either to the holy office at Coelen in Germany, or to that in Paris. But the Inquisition we are now treating of sprang up in the west of Europe, different in its origin, and different in its nature from all the rest. The last throne of the Moors was destroyed in the fifteenth century; and the Saracen worship was obliged to give place to the preponderating success of the Christians. However, the Christian faith was, at this period, but recently founded, and, consequently, not firmly established in that infant kingdom; and in the conflict of heterogeneous laws and manners, the various creeds were not yet entirely separated; and though the sword of persecution had driven many thousand families into Africa, a far greater part of the population, fascinated by a beloved native climate, en-

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deavoured to free themselves from that dreadful necessity, by a dissembled conversion, but continued to serve either Mahomet or Moses at the Christian altar. So long as there were some who turned their prayers towards Mecca, Grenada was not considered as conquered; and as long as a new Christian continued to be a Jew, or a Mahometan, in the recesses of his house, he was no more a sure subject to the crown than to the Roman see. It was not sufficient to force upon that repugnant people the outward form of a new creed, or to unite them to the victorious church by the weak bands of ceremony; but it was thought necessary to root out the old religion, and to overcome a stubborn inclination, whose seat was in their manners, laws, and language, by the habits of several centuries, and which was fostered by the remembrances of their native soil and sky. If it was the wish of the church to gain a complete victory over the opposite mode of worship, and ensure its conquest from every relapse, it was necessary to undermine the very foundation on which the old creed was erected, and to destroy the whole frame of moral character to which that belief was intimately joined:—to root it out from the inmost recesses of the heart; to obliterate its vestiges in the circle of social life, cause every remembrance of it to die away, and, if possible, even to destroy the very susceptibility for its restoration. Country and family, conscience and honour, the sacred feelings of society and nature, are always the first and last associations with which religion mingles itself—from which it receives, and to which it gives strength. This union was now to be dissolved, and the old religion torn away from the fibres of nature to which it clung. The Inquisition was accordingly formed, which, in order to distinguish it from the other tribunals known by that name, I shall call the “Spanish Inquisition.” It had the Cardinal Ximenes for its founder. A dominican monk, named Torquemada, first ascended its sanguinary throne, established its statutes, and, by this legacy, has entailed an eternal malediction on his order. The vows of the Inquisition are in effect to debase reason, and to assassinate the mind: its instruments are terror and disgrace; every passion is in its pay, and its net is spread in every resort of enjoyment and of society: even solitude is not excluded from it, and the fear of its omnipresence

presence holds freedom in chains even in the inmost recesses of the soul.

All the instincts of humanity are subjected to faith, to which all the ties which men hold sacred must give way. All the claims on his species are lost to the heretic, who forfeits the rights of nature by the slightest deviation from the Catholic church. A modest doubt as to the infallibility of the Pope is punished as patricide, and considered as infamous as the crime against nature. The judgments of this tribunal are like the fumes of the pestilence. Even the inanimate things which belong to the heretic are cursed. The victims of the Inquisition have no escape. Its sentences are executed even on the dead, and on their effigies; and the grave is no refuge from its atrocious vengeance. The presumption of its judgments can only be excelled by the ferocity with which they are executed. By coupling the ridiculous with the horrible, and by amusing the eye with the singular pomp and ritual of its processions, the Inquisition endeavours to weaken the effect of compassion, and pervert the feelings of sympathy into scorn and disdain.

With a solemn pomp it leads the culprit to the place of execution, a sanguine banner waving at the head of the procession. A general concord of all the bells accompanies the parade; at the head of which the priests, in their mass garments, are singing holy songs. The convicted sinner follows, in yellow clothes decorated with images of black devils: on his head he has a paper cap, which terminates in a human figure, with disgusting demons flying around it, while flames are issuing forth. Turning from him, as condemned for ever, the image of a crucified Saviour is carried; indicating, by the position in which it is held, that the culprit has no part in man's salvation. To the stake and the faggot belong his sensitive body, and to hell his immortal soul. His mouth is gagged, that he may not relieve his pain by lamentation, or excite pity by a narration of his sufferings, or be able to divulge the secrets of the holy office. Next to the convict comes the priesthood in their sacred vestments; then the magistrates and nobility; and the fathers, who have been his judges, complete the dreadful procession. The beholder imagines he sees a corpse led to the grave; and yet it is a living man, whose torments are intended to afford a dreadful entertainment to the people. Such executions were usually kept for

holidays; for which purpose many miserable victims were collected together in the dungeons of the holy office, in order to solemnize the act by the number sacrificed. On such occasions, even kings were present, sitting uncovered on lower chairs than those of the grand inquisitor. Who would not tremble before a tribunal in the presence of which even majesty sinks into subordination?

The great revolution in the faith brought about by Luther and Calvin, caused to the Catholic church the same emergencies which formerly gave rise to that tribunal: and that which was originally intended to free the small kingdom of Grenada from the scanty remnants of the Saracens and the Jews, became now necessary in the whole of Catholic Christendom. The inquisitions of Portugal, Italy and Germany accepted the form of that of Spain. It followed the Europeans into India, and erected a terrible tribunal at Goa, the inhuman proceedings of which terrify us even by their description. Wherever the Inquisition sets its foot, devastation soon follows: but in no part of the world did it rage so much as in Spain. The victims which the Inquisition has murdered may be forgotten; new generations of men have replaced again the ravages of persecution; so may they the countries which have been laid waste and depopulated: but centuries may pass away before the vestiges of this demoralizing institution will disappear from the Spanish climate. It has stopped an ingenious and enterprising nation in its career to perfection,—has banished genius from a country which once it eminently inhabited,—and has left behind, in the spirit of that nation, a stillness which reigns over the grave:—a nation, destined by nature to be joyful in the bounties of a luxurious climate, but counter-doomed, by the gloomy tyranny of superstitious cruelty, to mourn in distrust, in sullenness, and privation.

In the year 1522, Charles V. for the first time ordered an inquisitor into Brabant. Some priests were given to him as assistants; but the inquisitor himself was a civilian. After the death of Adrian VI. his successor, Clement VII., ordered three inquisitors for all the provinces of the Netherlands; but Paul III. reduced the number to two, who remained in that country till the commencement of the disturbances. In the year 1530 the edicts against heretics were published, with the consultations and

and approbation of the various corporations, and which edicts were the ground-work of all that followed. In the year 1550, Charles V. imagined himself under the necessity, from the rapid increase of the sectarians, of renewing and strengthening those edicts. It was on that occasion that the city of Antwerp opposed the Inquisition, and had the good fortune to escape its grasp. But the character of the Inquisition in the Netherlands, in compliance with the genius of that country, was rather more humane; and had not, until then, any foreigners, still less a Dominican monk for its governor. It had for its guide those edicts which every one knew; and, owing to that, the Inquisition was less objected to, because its proceedings were less arbitrary, and not so much involved in mystery as the Spanish: though the former was sufficiently cruel in its judgments.

But it was the wish of Philip to prepare the way for a genuine Spanish Inquisition in the Netherlands, because he considered it as the best means to destroy the spirit of that nation, and to prepare it for a despotic government. He began by insisting on the religious decrees of his father, and by enlarging the power of the Inquisition progressively, and making its proceedings still more arbitrary and independent of the civil jurisdictions: so that the tribunal of the Netherlands soon wanted nothing more than the name of the Spanish Inquisition, and a Dominican monk at its head, to become completely what Philip desired. Mere suspicion was enough to tear away a citizen from the protection of the municipal laws, and from the circle of his family; and the slightest testimony justified the application of the torture. Whoever fell into that pit never rose again. The maternal care of justice extended to him no more. Out of the pale of the world, malice and madness pronounced judgment on the victim: his accuser never known to him; and seldom even his crime. The criminal was to be forced to find out his trespass; and in the agony of pain on the rack, or in the weariness of the long imprisonment in which he was buried alive, he was made to confess crimes which perhaps were never committed; or at least had never been known to his judges.

The estates of the convict were confiscated; informers were encouraged, by tenders of pardon and reward. No privilege, no civil jurisdiction, was avail-

able against the holy power. The civil powers had no other share in the proceedings, but submissively to execute the sentence. The temporal happiness, and the life of the most innocent, were placed in the hands of every wretch. Every concealed enemy, every repiner, every expectant, had now the most dangerous allurements to an imperceptible sacrifice and infallible revenge. The security of friendship, the frankness of conversation, was at an end; all the ties of relationship, and even those of love, were loosened. An infectious suspicion poisoned social life; and the apprehension of a spy, glared in every look, and paralyzed every tongue. No one could be trusted; and all that is held sacred amongst men sunk in the unmanned estimation of the subjects of the Inquisition.

These horrors, it may be said, have partly passed away; and perhaps, even in Spain, they cannot be *quite* renewed; but, as the system of espionage is conducted on the same principle as that of the abominable Inquisition, and as it is at present so much used as an instrument by continental despots, it behoves the English, whose prosperity, as a free and commercial people, can only exist while the freedom of social confidence shall remain inviolate, to be on their guard, and use their utmost diligence, through the medium of the press, and the influence of their popular representation, to exclude every measure which might tend to the prevalence of that system of espionage, which, to say the best of it, is but the political spawn of that theological Jaga Naut, the Spanish Inquisition.

For the Monthly Magazine.

ON METEOROLOGICAL INQUIRIES.

THE science of Meteorology appears to be acquiring, gradually, that degree of attention from scientific men, which its great importance demands. It is obvious that calculations respecting the probable occurrence of any species of atmospheric phenomena, must, at the very best, be attended with great anomalies. Such an infinite variety of circumstances operate in producing the changes to which our proverbially changeable climate is subject, that it is not surprising hypothesis should succeed hypothesis, and new theories be substituted for old ones, in accounting for the various anomalies which constantly occur, and which, in reality, may be said to baffle all calculation.

Nothing but a long series of simultaneous observations, made with great attention by persons in various parts of the kingdom, and subsequently compared and collated, can be of much avail in calculating the probability of any peculiar state of the weather at any given period. And even deductions of this nature are liable to be disturbed, however accurately they may be made, by unforeseen changes and inscrutable modifications.

That a mere change of temperature is the *immediate* agent (or parent) of many of the atmospherical phenomena, has been long known to every person who is moderately conversant with meteorological inquiries: but the *modus operandi* of this agent has not been so clearly defined as might have been wished. Some believing the agency of heat or cold to be only *plus* or *minus* of the same substance, and simply operating by mechanical agency; whilst others allow a certain degree of chemical agency to the operations of heat or cold, as either of these extremes prevail in our atmospheric medium.

That the quantity of aqueous vapour held in solution by the atmosphere bears a certain degree of relation to the temperature of the air at any given period, is so well known, as to render it unnecessary to offer any exemplification. But with respect to the influence of the hygrometric state of the atmosphere upon the *minimum temperature* of the night, a Mr. Anderson, of Perth, has lately made a communication to the Edinburgh Philosophical Journal, from which I shall beg leave to offer a few extracts.

This gentleman claims the honour of having first pointed out to the public this coincidence between the state of moisture and the minimum temperature, some years back, in the Edinburgh Encyclopædia. Without disputing this claim (though some little doubt exists on the subject), I shall render him the justice, which the sagacity of his present remarks entitle him to, by giving his own words:

"In the case of the daily change of temperature, there is some interval between the maximum and the minimum condition, which may be regarded as the temperature belonging to the season of the year; and though that point is not, at all times, equally distant from the extremes between which it oscillates, it seldom departs far from their mean point. If this mean were to rise and sink regularly, as the year advanced and declined, without being subject to daily fluctuation, the quantity of moisture

existing in the atmosphere at any given time might be determined by the thermometer alone, with considerable precision, as it would generally be less than the quantity corresponding to the mean temperature, and seldom greater than that which belongs to the minimum temperature; the latter setting limits to the accumulation of watery vapour in the atmosphere; while the former no less effectually secures it against a state of long-continued dryness. The truth of these assertions will be readily perceived, by a comparison of the minimum temperature with the point of deposition, or the temperature at which the moisture existing in the atmosphere would begin to deposit itself."

Mr. Anderson then proceeds to shew, that the quantity of humidity in the air, from a long series of observations, and taking the mean temperature of each separate month, follows invariably the order of the temperature: and that the coincidence between the minimum temperature of the night, and the point of condensation of aqueous vapour, is at all times sufficiently near to warrant the conclusion, that they are dependent on each other; *the variation between the point of deposition and the lowest temperature of the night not exceeding 1° Fahrenheit, taking the average of the twelve months.*

Mr. Anderson estimates the quantity of atmospheric vapour, in the summer months, at somewhat more than double that of the winter months; being, on an average of the whole year, 1814 grains in 100 cubic inches of air. It is also obvious, that during the autumnal months, the atmosphere is more highly charged with vapour than during the opposite months of the spring, owing to the sun's influence on evaporation during the summer months. The usual autumnal rains, therefore, may be considered only as a condensation of the excess of vapour raised by the high temperature of the summer quarter.

Mr. Anderson next proceeds to examine the phenomena which result from the conversion of water into vapour, and *vice versâ*, as a corroboration of his views with regard to the coincidence of the point of condensation and the minimum temperature.

Mr. A. satisfactorily shews, that although the reduction of temperature uniformly lessens the capacity of common air for aqueous vapour, yet at a certain point (which is that of deposit of the vapour), a reaction takes place: the vapour, as it becomes condensed into the liquid state, giving off a considerable

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derable portion of heat to the circum-ambient air.* There is, by this means, a very beautiful series of compensating operations constantly going on in our atmosphere; the effect of which is, to preserve us from any of the extremes of heat or cold, moisture or excessive drought. Many of Mr. Anderson's remarks appear very judicious, and confirmed by his own observations and others; but they are too long to allow of extracting more than one or two general inferences:—That the greatest cold during the night should always happen when the atmosphere is in its driest state; and conversely, when the air is extremely humid, there should be very little difference between the temperature of the day and the night:—and that, by attending to the hygrometric state of the air in the evening, there is no difficulty in predicting the *minimum* temperature of the ensuing night, the deviation very seldom being beyond the limits within which the nicest thermometrical observations are usually made.

A. Z.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*.

SIR:

AFTER all that has been effected by learning and industry, towards the production of a perfectly faithful translation of the Scriptures, such a translation still remains a desideratum. Of all existing books, the Old and New Testaments are those, a true and perspicuous rendering of the sense of which is of more importance than a correct version of any other volumes; and, therefore, I am anxious to persuade the erudite members of the church of England, of the necessity of such a version; and cannot, in my own opinion, convey my sentiments through a more eligible medium than that of your respectable and widely-circulated miscellany.

During the long reign of darkness spread over the Western World by the

* Various experiments prove the quantity of heat given out by the condensation of atmospheric air; and the amount of this disengaged heat is always greater in proportion to the humidity of the air. That the quantity of heat given out by the condensation of vapour into rain is a powerful agent in maintaining an equilibrium temperature in the atmosphere, there can be no doubt; and we see no reason why it may not be sufficient, when the condensation is extremely rapid, to produce light as well as heat, and thus occasion atmospheric electricity, or lightning.

Goths and Vandals, the knowledge of the Hebrew tongue was confined to a despised people, to whose ancestors it had been vernacular: yet it had no reason to complain of particular neglect; it did but undergo the common fate of literature; or, perhaps, indeed, had particular advantages in being preserved and cultivated, for peculiar reasons, by a peculiar people, at a time when, amongst Christians in general, religion had been separated from learning; and, according to well-authenticated accounts, a knowledge of the Greek rendered a man suspected, and an acquaintance with the Hebrew amounted to heresy.

In consequence of this state of things, it was a considerable time ere the Christian world was awakened to the necessity of inquiring into the language of Scripture.

For the first fair interpretation of the holy volumes, England was indebted to the labours of Wickliffe, who, by the way, was content to translate from a version couched in a humble dialect and style; and, at the commencement of the Reformation, little more, indeed, was aimed at, than to interpret the text of the Bible, as exhibited in the Jewish editions. For a considerable period, translators did not aspire to the effecting any emendation of the misrepresented original, either by the collation of manuscripts, or the happy and temperate exercise of even conjectural criticism. At a somewhat later period, however, what might be called the national version was so improved by a new revisal, as to give it a more decided superiority over two others then partially in use; which object was fully attained. When this emendation, or rather new version, appeared, it was found to be, comparatively, faithful, animated, and perspicuous; and it is not averring too much to say, that while it served the cause of religion, it added something of weight and dignity to the English language.

But while the happy consequence of this improved interpretation is acknowledged, we have reason to regret, that it has been allowed to supersede the necessity of more closely consulting the original. The Hebrew language, for a considerable period, was, at best, but negligently cultivated, and had too unsettled a station among theological studies. It was, in fact, more attended to by the ardour of the Puritans, a sect not over-qualified to recommend any species of knowledge; but whose attachment to

to any particular province of learning would rather throw upon it a degree of discredit, and render it obnoxious to the prejudices and the raillery of men of sounder and purer principles. Since that time, however, no church has produced more annotators and illustrators of sacred literature, than those of whom our own communion can boast. What their enlightened labours have achieved in the way of scriptural elucidation, has been of an importance, to impose an obligation upon the divines of the present age, to perform something more. Such a task is necessary, if not indispensable. When the existing version was produced, the manuscript copies of the Old Testament had not been examined; neither had the collateral dialects of the Oriental tongues been much studied. The Arabic was introduced into Europe by Erpenius of Leyden, and into England by Pococke, who was a fellow-traveller with the former, and brought back with him a knowledge of the Eastern tongues, that has never been surpassed. This circumstance, alone, afforded a great advantage, since the traits observable in the Arabic and Persian poetry exist also in the Hebrew.

Another advantage enjoyed by the present times is, that ancient versions of the Bible, and parts of the Bible, have since appeared; such as the Samaritan and Persian versions of the Pentateuch, and the Arabic and Syrian versions of the Old Testament. Moreover, the knowledge of Eastern customs has been familiarized, by which many passages in the Scriptures have, from time to time, received the most satisfactory explanations. To this favourable circumstance is to be added the fact, that much Oriental criticism has been frequently and judiciously applied to the elucidation of the sacred text; that scarcely any part of Scripture has been without its critic, commentator, and paraphrast. These are new advantages; but new advantages bring along with them new demands—new duties. The benefits already produced, are benefits only as they may be made preparatory to the final correction of existing impurities, and to the production of a translation of Holy Writ, more perfect than that which we now possess.

With all the respect due to our ancient translation, I cannot, Sir, but press the necessity of a new version; not a version that would innovate, in any point, the general opinion and practice of the

members of the Church of England,* but a version that all men, especially scholars, will rejoice to see; a version with emendations and illustrations, that will cast their informing rays on many doubtful passages, restore to others their original dignity, and impart, to the general mind, a light adequate to the dissipation of every obscurity. A work of such importance would be undertaken with the greatest propriety, where it would be undertaken with the greatest safety,—I mean, in one of our universities; seminaries always steady in their attachment to primitive truth, and the real

* With all submission to our learned correspondent, we do not see what “innovation (or non-innovation) on the opinions and practice of the church of England,” has to do with the subject. His object, we presume, is a *faithful* translation of the Scriptures; not the bolstering up of any particular creed. If any part of the popular (or, as it may be called, orthodox) translation is unfaithful to the sense of the original, let it, for truth’s sake, and truth’s alone, be corrected by more enlightened revision;—no matter what existing or hereditary opinions may be confirmed or shaken—what practices prolonged or abrogated—what establishments rise or fall. The priests of the temple may be anxious for the pillars of Ephesus, and the offerings of the altar; but the only pillars the conscientious worshipper should be anxious about, are those of the temple of truth; the only solicitude about offerings, should be that they be pure, and no other than those which the Deity has required. But there is another species of innovation, which we should seriously deprecate in the projected new version so frequently recommended—innovation upon the pure simplicity of our biblical dialect. We should be very sorry to see it Johnsonized, or classicalized, or in any respect new-fangled. As it stands, it is as beautiful as it is venerable; if homely, yet sublime, in naked and expressive Anglicism; worthy to give and to preserve, as for centuries it has preserved, a basis of stability to a noble language. If a revision be necessary, let it be a *revision* only; not a *new* cast and moulding of the style and composition. Where there are errors in the translated text, let those errors be corrected; and let the idiom of the corrections harmonize with the simplicity of the established version. But against any attempt to supersede, in the main, the long and justly-venerated olden text, our protest shall be loud and firm. For that, as the best stay against the torrent of innovation, which else must progressively overwhelm our noble language, our constant prayer shall be, “Be it immortal!”—ED.

real interest of their country's established religion. And, besides this powerful recommendation, where does the apparatus of Sacred Criticism so amply exist as at Oxford or Cambridge? Where do rare and curious works, in various languages, and tending to the illustration of Scripture, so amply abound, as in those depositaries of literary treasures? And when is learning so usefully and laudably employed, as when applied to the universal advantage of society, in the department of its highest interest? In what does knowledge so well demonstrate its worth, as in the utility of which it is made the parent? and what utility can exceed that which is connected with the future existence to which we are taught to look, and without a view of which, our present abode would be but the dwelling of dreariness, sorrow, and despair?

Impressed with these sentiments—convinced of the good that would result from a more accurate translation of the Scriptures,—especially now, that the Bible is so industriously circulated among the labouring classes of society,—I could not, Sir, but deem it far from unserviceable, to offer a few arguments in favour of an undertaking which, I am sensible, thousands would rejoice to see realized, and by which, we all know, millions would be benefited.

CLERICUS.

For the Monthly Magazine.

On the UTILITY of DEBATING SOCIETIES.

THE communication respecting the St. Alban's Literary Society, contained in the last number* of your magazine, seems to require some further illustration. I therefore take the liberty of addressing to you an extract of a short essay, entitled as above, which was read a few evenings ago in a London literary society of which I have the honour to be a member, and which, I hope, you will feel no objection to insert.

"If I were asked, what is the utility of such a society as your's? I would answer, in the first place, It is an intellectual recreation; a rational, and, in most cases, a cheap amusement. In the second, it is an exercise of our faculties; it sharpens our attention; it practices our memory; it teaches us to collect, arrange, and methodize our thoughts. In the third, it increases our knowledge, by adding to it some of that possessed by our associates, and by fre-

quently inducing us to search for information, in those sources which otherwise we might never have explored. Lastly, it teaches us diffidence in our opinions, and, consequently, modesty. It is natural for young people to be 'wise in their own conceit': we are but too apt to form hasty notions on matters of science, belles-lettres, philosophy, religion, or politics, either from the instruction which we received in our infancy, or from books, newspapers, casual conversations, &c. In a thousand cases to one, an opinion enters our mind accidentally, and there takes its residence, uncontradicted and undisturbed, often to the end of our lives, without our ever having had an opportunity of examining on what ground it is founded, or, indeed, if there exist any foundation for it at all. If the subject happens to be brought up in company, we are prone to decide upon it *ex cathedra*, and are startled if our notions are called into question: they are *our* notions, and therefore we feel ourselves bound to defend them tooth and nail, and generally make up by blustering for our want of argument.

"Now I conceive, that, in this point of view, a Debating Society is of infinite benefit to an individual. Whether we bring a subject forward ourselves, or it be introduced by another, we are bound to give it some consideration before we venture to speak upon it. The matter, whatever it be, is shaped into a single question; and whichever side we take, we must search for grounds of our support, and bring our ideas together in regular connexion: and there being no interlocution, and therefore little to excite our passions, we shall more readily discover, that we often had no sufficient reason for the opinions we have held: in short, that every question has more sides than one. Such an experiment, frequently repeated, will make us humble and modest. We shall begin to doubt our own wisdom; we shall learn to suspect that, as we had been mistaken in some matters, we might, by possibility, also be mistaken in others: and this consideration may lead us either to re-consider our opinions in general, or at least to moderate our warmth in defending them; every one of which will be a step towards the acquisition of truth and our own improvement."

In conclusion, I beg to add, that, by the rules of our institution, as by those of the St. Alban's Society, party politics and religious controversy are excluded from our discussions; but with the difference, that *we* have hitherto adhered to our rules, and the gentlemen of St. Alban's have not. I do not blame the gentlemen for liking the discussion of such topics as the Liberty of the Press, and the Disabilities of Roman Catholics; but I am at a loss to discover how they can be discussed without party politics

* See Monthly Magazine for October, p. 218.

litics and religious controversy forming part of the discussion. I do not know whether any such societies ever before existed in St. Alban's; but in London and elsewhere, experience has shewn that questions like these are the rocks upon which most societies of this kind have split: and if the gentlemen of St. Alban's, or any other gentlemen who may have formed, or may yet form themselves into debating societies, are *really desirous* of improving themselves, let me humbly warn them to discard such questions for the future. They will find the field of science and literature and philosophy, ample enough for their discussions for fifty years to come, without ever touching upon religion or politics.

Hadlow Street, 4th Oct. 1824.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR:

ENCLOSED I have sent you a second communication from the St. Alban's Literary Society, which I should feel obliged by your either inserting, or noticing in your Answers to Correspondents.—Your's respectfully,

J. HARRIS, Jun.

St. Alban's, 12th Oct. 1824.

On the LOVE of LIFE.

FROM the earliest periods of infancy down to the second childhood of decrepitude, the love of life teaches us to exert our faculties for our preservation and well-being. From the moment that the babe is presented to the breast of its mother to the latest hour of weak and debilitated age, when it receives assistance and nourishment from children's children; throughout all the variations of youth, manhood, and decay, the love of life never forsakes us; but, in every situation, and under every circumstance, teaches us to cherish and preserve our frame. Children rarely think of death, and never but with apprehension and dismay; and it is equally true, that, for the most part, the old regard it with a childish fear:

“The tree of deepest root is found
Least willing still to quit the ground.”

I must own, that it has often been to me a matter of much surprize to witness men, grey, and bent with the weight of years, without a seeming comfort upon earth, and almost without a sense or faculty to enjoy one, clinging to life with all an infant's fondness. From this I have been convinced, that the Love of Life is an innate quality of the strongest and most enduring

power. It is inseparable from existence: and I am of opinion, that, when under the influence of the most perplexing and distressing circumstances, howsoever we may affect to despise our lives, we should resign them, were they to be demanded, with sorrow and reluctance.

I concur with Byron in the opinion, that

“The very suicide
Lets out impatiently the rushing breath,
Less from disgust of life, than dread of
death.”

In sickness also, and bodily calamity, when the thread of existence seems almost severed by the pangs of disease; when fever breathes its burning pestilence through every pore, and nature groans in the convulsions of pain; even then, when to be nothing would seem “a consummation devoutly to be wished,” we still cling to existence, and pray, not for the oblivion of the grave, but for the renewal of health, and the prolongation of life.

And when, at length, indisposition loosens his debilitating grasp, and the sufferer recovers strength sufficient to quit his sickly couch and walk abroad, how sweet and refreshing does the meanest natural object appear!

“See the wretch, that long has tost
On the thorny bed of pain,
At length repair his vigour lost,
And breathe and walk again:
The meanest flow'ret of the vale,
The simple note that swells the gale,
The common sun, the air, the skies,
To him are opening paradise.”

It is evident that the love of life includes, in some measure, the idea of happiness, and the desire to attain it: for happiness is the essence of desire; and we consequently cling to those objects which can give us either immediate or promise us future pleasure. It is from the same principle of action that the sensualist continually cherishes and gratifies his appetites, and the moralist chastens and governs them, and practices self-denial. Both are equally influenced by the love of life; although the one is content with a calm and lasting enjoyment, and the other can be gratified only by the sensations of strong excitement.

Who are so desirous of pleasure or gratification as those who are the most easy in their circumstances, and the least afflicted by trouble and misfortune? It is then that we are most sensible of our existence, and of the pleasures derivable from it. We feel as though we were created

created only to be happy, and seek the abodes of pleasure as disposition or circumstance suggest. The ills we so lately endured are then forgotten, or remembered only to give a zest to present enjoyment. We are satisfied with ourselves, and at peace with others. Nature wears a livelier robe; the sun seems to laugh in his brightness, and the clouds are tinged with an imaginative lustre; the light of paradise seems to be opening through them, as they reflect to our excited senses the glow of love and the golden smile of joy.

It was this simple consciousness of existence, mingled with the delight derived from the observation and contemplation of nature, that caused the wisest of kings to exclaim, "Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eyes to behold the sun." And I think there is not a reflecting being in the world who hath not felt, though he may not have expressed the same.

That the love of life should beget the idea of immortality, is not in the least degree surprising. We naturally wish to continue whatever affords us pleasure; and from thence the opinion of immaterial existence has originated: for we are convinced by experience of the destruction of the body, and are consequently impelled to consider the mind as a separate and independent being. Whether the idea of a life hereafter be merely a visionary delusion of the wish—a recoiling from "the secret dread and inward horror of falling into nothing"—or whether it be an emanation of some innate principle, or intuitive consciousness of the human mind, I will not presume either to affirm or to discuss. My belief is in the latter opinion; and certain I am that such a belief is individually consolatory, and universally beneficial.

Milton, in his immortal poem, gives us the following advice from the lips of the angel Michael:

"Nor love thy life, nor hate: but what thou livest
Live well: how long or short, permit to Heaven."

To live well, we must live virtuously: which is our interest as well as our duty, knowing that real and lasting happiness, which is our "being's end and aim," is incompatible with aught but virtue. Our very love of life should be in proportion only to our means of rendering benefit to others; which is indeed the truest means of gratification to ourselves. For what selfish pleasure is equal to the

exercise of charity and goodwill? indeed, what luxury to that of doing good? The pompous tributes even of universal fame and flattery, are nothing in comparison with the silent applause of the heart.

C.

St. Alban's, 23d Sept. 1824.

MANNERS, CONDITION, and CHARACTER, of WOMEN in SOUTH AMERICA.

AS there are three distinct tribes in South America, the usages, customs, and manners, as well as the features, of the women, must differ most materially. Perhaps there is more similarity in the mode of treatment adopted by the Spaniard, the African negro, and South American Indian, towards their women, than in any other part of their characteristics,—as the women are more properly slaves to them than companions. The Spaniard leaves all the drudgery of his house to his wife, while he lolls at ease in his hammock, smoking. The negro, if he may be suffered to remain idle, cares not what labour his wife is put to; and the Indian looks on woman as of a species inferior to him in every respect, and, if he chance to lose her, gives himself very little trouble to find her again, unless she has any of his children with her. Happier in this than either the Spaniard or the negro, he is not plagued by the demon of jealousy. As their treatment by the men must influence the conduct of women, some of the disgusting usages and customs among them may properly be placed to this account. The Spanish women, by nature graceful in person, and endearing in native disposition, regular in feature, and expressive in countenance, from contemptuous neglect, become slovenly, disregardful, and inanimate: so that there is, at present, very little affinity between the ladies of Old Spain and those in South America, either in person or manners. Perhaps their intercourse with negroes and people of colour may in some degree account for this. As the Spanish children are nursed by negresses, they necessarily imbibe some portion of their character. The first feeling of an Englishman, in coming in contact with the South American women, is disgust. Contrasted with the elegant neatness of his own fair countrywomen, he views the stiff, stately, transatlantic females, as beings almost of another order. A want of taste and fitness in their apparel, an awkward gait, owing, perhaps, to the constant use of slippers, the trailing waste of folding

ing and plaited drapery behind, and the long scarfs which they wear over their heads, give them a very grotesque, and, at the same time, gloomy and fanatical appearance; while the neglect of ablution is but too visible on their hands and faces. The greasy aliments and oils, and quantities of garlick, used in their cookery, make their breath as little attractive as their appearance: so that, excepting their dark expressive eyes, and the melting plaintiveness of their voices, the Spanish women of America have very little one can admire. Their musical acquirements are mostly confined to the guitar.

There are some exceptions, however, to those general remarks, and in many parts of South America are to be seen very pretty women; especially in high latitudes, or cold regions. There are several towns on the Cordilleras, from Coro to Cumana, where beauty holds her empire. But a very fatal disease visits those high latitudes, called there the godos, or goitres, which disfigures many of them. Latitude, or climate, however, does not alone decide. The women of Caraccas are reputed handsome, while those of La Guayra are coarse, dark, and ordinary, although the distance is not more than two days' journey. In Merida the women are handsome; although those of Maracaibo are very ordinary, which is not more than four or five days' journey distant. In Valentia, again, they are ordinary; although, in its immediate vicinity, they are quite different. One moral feature, however, in general characterizes them, that is, generosity. As they are removed from the negro caste, they are more affable; as the characteristic ferocity of the negro is visible in every caste that approaches his dingy hue. The introduction of this unhappy class into South America, and perhaps into every region into which they have been transported, has entailed a seemingly uneradicable brand on the offspring of those, whose tyrannous injustice has sought to build the superstructure of rapacious opulence upon their enthralled and agonising labour.

It is equally perceptible in those tribes of Indians who have allowed the negro to intermarry with them. For instance, the Laneros are the fiercest, most intractable, and treacherous race on Terra Firma, and the negro women have scarcely an amiable trait in their character; while, on the contrary, the Indians of Bocca Montana, Carache,

and many other wandering tribes, are mild, docile, and tractable, and their women generous and obliging. Perhaps the best idea of the people may be had from naming the principal towns, with the leading features of their women. For instance, in Bogota, the women are ordinary, clumsy, and inclined to what we frenchify into the affected term, *en bonne point*; and are not over-nice in their amours. In Carthagena, they are somewhat better-looking, though not much more virtuous. In Santa Martha, very ordinary; in Baranquilla and Savannah, the same; in Turbaco, a little better; in Portobello, ugly, ill-natured, and savage; in Porto Cavello, obliging, but ordinary; Cumana, the same, and mostly women of colour; in Rio de la Lacha, disgusting, but free from goitres; in Alvalea, tolerably handsome and obliging; in Angostura, and along the Orinoco, very ordinary, inclined to black in general, with most of the peculiarities of that hue. In fact, along the sea-coast, the women are not comparable to the women of the interior in person or disposition; as the heat of low situations seems to have its influence over the disposition as well as the person.

For the Monthly Magazine.

DANISH TRADITIONS and SUPERSTITIONS.
(Continued from No. 399, p. 22.)

The Daneman's Hope.

IN the year 1219, when King Waldemar fought with the heathen Liflanders, in order to force them to the Christian faith, Archbishop Andreas stood like Moses of old upon a high mountain, and prayed to Heaven, with extended arms, for the success of the Danish weapons. It is reported, that as long as he was able to hold his arms in the air, the Danes conquered, but whenever he let his arms sink, from old age and weakness, the heathens had the advantage. The priests, therefore, who were around him, supported his arms until the battle was over. Another wonderful circumstance occurred, for the Danish standard being lost in the heat of the action, there fell from Heaven a crimson banner, on which was painted a white cross, a sight which very much contributed to the success of the Christians. They preserved the banner for a long time, and called it "The Daneman's Hope," for it was their firm belief, that wherever they fought under it the victory would be theirs. On the spot where the above-mentioned

mentioned battle took place, the town of Wolmer was erected.

Holger the Dane.

Every one who has read the chronicle of Holger the Dane, knows that he was given as a hostage by his father, King Goetterick, to the Emperor Charlemagne, whom he served in the war against the Saracens. He afterwards accompanied the Emperor to the land of India, where he ate of a fruit which made his body imperishable; so that although he died in France, he has since then appeared at different times. It is reported that whenever the Danish armies march against their foes, he is seen striding before them with his mighty shield, in order to lead them to victory and renown.

The Dragons in Syngbye Church-yard.

In former days two Dragons had their nest in Syngbye Church-yard. It once happened, during service time, that they had a furious battle with each other before the church door, and made such a noise, that a soldier rushed out with a drawn sword to drive them away, but the Dragons spitting their poison upon him, he almost immediately expired. The people who were in the church at the time, dared not go out of the door, because the largest of the Dragons had laid itself down before it; they therefore broke through the wall on the north side, where the church-door is at present.

One of the Dragons shortly afterwards died of the wounds it had received from its companion, but the other still infested the church-yard, to the great annoyance of all those who went near it; and it is said that once, when a christening took place in the church, the Dragon went in and devoured the child. The people in the neighbourhood at length bred up a bull-calf, and fed it with milk and wheaten bread, and when it was become so big and strong that they thought it would be a match for the Dragon, they led it into the church-yard. The combat instantly began, and ended by the reptile being slain; but the bull was so injured by its venom that he did not long survive.

In Syngbye church-yard is a stone, on which a savage bull is engraven: it is said that the animal lies buried beneath this stone. In the church, likewise, are many pictures and images which represent this story.

The Wierd Wanderer of Jutland.

A very long time ago, a man was seen in Jutland, who wore tattered clothes, rode upon a little horse, and whose

stirrups were formed of wood, after a clumsy fashion. When he was asked whence he came, and where he was going, he generally replied "from Vendsyssel, over to Hymmersyssel, or about there." He made several prophecies, and said, concerning a rock at Mae, "thorns shall grow through the clefts of that rock, and among those thorns a magpie shall build her nest, bring up her young, and then fly away;" all which came to pass as he had said. He further prophesied, that when the magpie was flown away, there would come to Vendsyssel a hostile army, and that most part of the district would be laid waste; that the women would be animated with men's courage, and would fight the foes; but when he was asked what would then happen, he replied "the end will follow."

At Aalborg he prophesied something to the town-bailiff, which the latter did not approve of, and so caused him to be whipped. Then the man prophesied again, saying, "that as surely as his blood had flowed down his back, so surely should the bailiff's blood run down the kennel of Aalborg." And it happened as he had foretold; for once, when there was a riot in the place, the people killed the bailiff in the street.

Concerning the brook of Haseriis, which at that time did not run through Aalborg, he prophesied that the time would come when it should run through the midst of the town; which likewise came to pass. He went once to Volstrup, in the district of Slonum, and having, according to custom, passed the night in a barn, and tied his horse out before it, he rode the next morning to the Sessions Hall, and the judge asking him; "how shall it go with me?" he received for answer, "thou shalt die in a barn." And it did not turn out better, for the judge was reduced to poverty, and had no other shelter in his last moments. Once, when several boys mocked this same prophet, and one of them flung a barrel stave at him, he shook his head, and told the boy that a stave should cost him his life. Some time after this very boy fell down from an apple tree upon a paling of barrel staves, where he perished. This strange just man would only take sufficient alms to support him for the day, and thus he wandered from place to place.

Swend Felling.

Swend Felling was a renowned hero born in Hadsherred. He served for a long time at the castle of Aakier. As

the roads at that period were infested with trollds, elves, and fiendish creatures, who were at war with all Christian people, he was employed as letter-carrier, on account of his great courage. Once as he was passing over the heath of Halm, an elf came to him from out of Jels-hill, and entreated Swend to assist him in a battle which he was about to fight with the still-trold of Borrumcassai. Swend Felling readily agreed, and at the same time, boasted that he was sufficiently strong and powerful to do any thing; whereupon the elf flung at his feet a weighty iron bar, and told him to try his strength upon that; but he could not lift it, although he exerted himself to the utmost. The elf then held out to him a drinking-horn, and told him to drink; and when Swend had drank a little, he was able to lift the bar, and when he had drank some more, it became still lighter to him; but when he had emptied the horn, he wielded the bar like a switch between his fingers, and shewed the elf that he had now the strength of twelve men. The elf then bade him proceed along the road, and when he met a black and a red bull fighting, he must belabour the black bull with all his might, and drive it away from the red one. Swend Felling did as he was commanded; and when he had put the black bull to flight, he discovered that it was the trold from Borrumeshoi, and that the red one was the Jel's-hill elf, who, to reward him for his assistance, allowed him, thenceforward, to retain the strength of twelve men; but told him, that if ever he discovered to any person how he came by it, he should instantly, as a punishment, be afflicted with the appetite of twelve men.

From that time the whole land rung with the fame of Swend Felling's strength, which he displayed in various instances. We are informed, that once, being angry with the ploughman, he flung him so high into the air, that he fell upon the house-roof. The Lord of Aakier hearing of this feat, called Swend Felling before him, and inquired how he became possessed of such supernatural strength. But Swend, who remembered the words of the elf, refused to inform his master, until the latter had sworn that he would always provide him with as much food as he wanted. He then discovered the secret; and from that moment, according to the elf's prediction, he ate and drank sufficient for twelve men. They still preserve at

Aakier a large tub out of which he used to eat, and they call it Swend Felling's porridge-tub. There is likewise an immense battle-axe, with which he could fell the stoutest oak at a blow. Before the castle is an aged linden, with a ring in it, to which he bound his horse.

Some historians give an entirely different account of Swend Felling, and say that he was descended from the giants of Johnheim. By the town of Sheenstrup is a hill called Slavbiere, where he was accustomed to sit while he washed his feet and hands in the sea, which is about half a furlong distant. At Holm, the country-people cooked his food, and brought it him in large brewing coppers. After his death, he was burned at Dalhoi, between Loms and Holmstrup.

(To be continued.)

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

THE witling may ridicule, and the unfeeling contemn, the efforts made by Mr. Martin to restrain those wanton acts of barbarity towards the brute creation, which are the opprobrium of the British metropolis.

Whether penal statutes have a tendency to diminish crime, is a question regarding which much diversity of opinion prevails; be that however as it may, every attempt to lessen or expose the horrid enormities alluded to, deserves the approbation of every friend of benevolence. But I fear, unless those sinks of vice and cruelty—those licensed dens for baiting animals, be abolished by the strong arm of the law, and the influential ranks of society, the wealthy and the titled, cease to countenance by their presence scenes at which humanity shudders, individual exertion must prove of little avail in lessening the evil complained of.

I was led into these reflections by witnessing a few days ago, in Clarendon Square, an atrocious instance of cruelty to a poodle dog; the poor animal had evidently lost its master, and while I stood admiring the sagacity with which the faithful creature was running to and fro, endeavouring to scent out his footsteps, the cry of a mad dog arose, when instantly a group of people, consisting of butchers'-boys, bricklayers'-labourers, paviors, and the whole idle population of the neighbourhood, collected together, hooting and pelting it with any missiles that lay in their way. The terrified dog leaped into the area of a house to avoid his

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his persecutors, but the door being closed against him, the mob collected round, and bringing water from the pump, dashed it over the railing. By a desperate effort, the poor deluged animal cleared the wall, and rushing through the crowd, once more sought refuge in the area of a house in the Polygon, inhabited by the Rev. Mr. Webster. This gentleman and his family, however, being from home, the crowd met with no molestation in consummating their brutal work, which they accomplished by literally stoning the animal to death.

I endeavoured to intercede with one of the most active among them, but was answered by a torrent of low *slang*, indicative of a kind of savage exultation in the work of cruelty going forward; and which convinced me that female interference was wholly unavailing.

I add with regret, that a gentleman, apparently an officer in the British service, who inhabits an adjoining house in the Polygon, viewed the scene from his window with the most complete *sang froid*.

I am no pretender to over-refined or sickly sentiment, yet I confess the groans of the poor animal rung in my ears long after I retreated from the scene of brutality.

The cry of Hydrophobia seems to me a watch-word to sanction the most cruel and indiscriminate persecution of the canine race: for canine madness is acknowledged, by competent judges, to be a disease of much more rare occurrence than is generally imagined; but should even popular terror demand a sacrifice of a suspicious or stray animal, surely humanity requires that they should be shot by some persons authorized for that purpose, and not that an indiscriminate license be allowed to the idle and disorderly, to raise the hue and cry against every dog they meet.

The hope that the above detail may meet the eye of some one able and competent to discountenance similar acts of cruelty, has induced me to solicit a place for it in your widely disseminated journal.

I remain, Sir,

A FRIEND TO THE BRUTE CREATION.
London, 10th Sept. 1824.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*.

SIR,

I HAVE heard and read, that a competent knowledge of our glorious and excellent constitution may be formed, by consulting Magna Charta, the Bill of Rights, and what is called the

Act of Settlement. This I have done, but, I must confess, not with all the satisfaction that I had anticipated. The first of those documents appears better calculated to shew the darkness, injustice, and slavery of the age in which it was written, than to enlighten the present. The two latter contain some interesting matter, but worded in so vague and undefined a manner, that they may be looked upon rather as an outline, or parts of a foundation, on which a constitution might be built, than a constitution in themselves. Some of the best things contained in those far-famed documents seem either to be repealed, or, at least, not to be acted upon in the present day. I shall at present only mention one instance. The Bill of Rights says expressly, that excessive fines ought not to be imposed, nor excessive bail required, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted. But how are we to explain the word *excessive*, so as to put the provision out of the reach and misapplication of caprice or party-spirit? And will any one pretend that excessive fines have not been, and are not imposed, contrary to the intent and meaning of the bill? If the word means any thing, it must mean, that no person shall, in any case, be fined beyond his means; or rather, that the fine shall, at least, be less than all that he is worth. Would it not, then, have been better to have expressed the meaning in some such definite terms? Vague and general terms in laws are snares, not protections, for the people: because, while *they* will naturally interpret them favourably, and according to common sense; judges, if corrupt, time-serving, or prejudiced, may and will interpret them according to the views and passions of the party who hold the powers of government. Magna Charta says distinctly, that "every freeman shall be fined according to his fault; that no fine shall be levied on him to his utter ruin; even a villain or rustic shall not by any fine be bereaved of his carts, ploughs, and instruments of husbandry."* If this boasted charter be still in force, how are we to account for the vindictive, excessive, and absolutely crushing fines, to several of which it would not be difficult to refer: fines which it was notorious the parties never could

* Surely this sentence alone, if it contained nothing else, ought to have secured to this famous instrument somewhat more respect than our correspondent seems disposed to treat it with.—ED.

could have it in their power to pay, and which, consequently, involved them in utter ruin, and doomed them to imprisonment for life,—contrary to Magna Charta and the Bill of Rights; and, I may add, to justice and common sense. But, Sir, is there any redress for these violations of, what we call, our constitution? If not, do Magna Charta and the other written documents, about which we are frequently so eloquent, give us practically any constitution at all?

B.

For the Monthly Magazine.

A CLUE to the FUTURE DISCOVERY of JUNIUS.

THE singular good fortune of this newspaper writer, who, with a solitary volume of letters, has earned an imperishable reputation, whilst such a voluminous list of the learned and really useful class have written only to be forgotten, is a signal proof of the resistless power of eloquence over the human mind, and of the enchantment of a naturally elegant and polished diction. The successful concealment of Junius, who he *was*, for *is* must be now out of question, has been a subject to draw out, and enthusiastically engage, as many grey goose quills as any of those connected with the deepest human interest. Indeed, his concealment during the several years he was writing, and raising such an insatiable curiosity in the public, is an example of unshaken firmness of mind, caution, and favouring fortune, little short of miraculous. He was, however, at length identified by a few; indeed, how could a man of such exquisite qualifications, natural and acquired, and of talents of such a peculiar order, elude the keen researches of a court so vitally interested in his discovery, and remain utterly and for ever unknown? His letters *suddenly* ceased,* to the astonishment and deep regret of his fascinated fellow citizens; and to my intensely felt disappointment, of which I have, even at this distance of time, a vivid recollection.

It soon came abroad that, not mortality, but a cause next in degree of efficiency, had deprived the English people of the services of Junius. He had been discovered, it was universally believed, and such overtures made to

* Notwithstanding which, we consider the assumed fact of the discovery, and consequently all that is built upon it, as very apocryphal.—ED.

him, as his virtue could not forego. Both parties probably, for obvious reasons, concurred that the most inviolable secrecy should form the leading article of the treaty; and this has been observed with a fidelity almost unexampled. We have in this treaty an illustrious example of the placability of royal resentment, however powerfully excited, to intimidation and dearer interests. The court followed, as might be expected, the royal course, and all the asperities raised by the name of Junius, seemed to be smoothed down to the most forbearing and philosophic state of acquiescence.

But even exclusive of the fact of a treaty, it seems the barest of all bare possibilities that, the Lords North, Shelburne, and Germaine, the Duke of Grafton, and many others who will be readily understood, could possibly remain unacquainted with the person and station of the author of Junius. Another, the most potent of all improbabilities, is, that all the relative documents should be destroyed, and that the men themselves should remain with sealed lips, even to every friend and connection. Is it possible that the late Duke of Grafton, who declared publicly he knew who Junius was, and entertained an utter contempt for the man, should suffer such a secret to die with him? What adequate motive could he possibly have for its concealment? It appears thus a legitimate *sequitur*, that the means yet remain for unraveling the mystery.

But as to the various persons to whom the composition of these precious letters has been ascribed, the very mode in which the pretended discoverers have treated the subject, is a clear indication that they merely meditated a successful guess.

Parson Horne, certainly one of the best informed men of his political day, could do no more than guess at the person of his antagonist.* Is this, at last

* We are sorry to find our correspondent applying to the late John Horne Tooke, the sneering appellation of Parson Horne. Though not quite the divinity which some of his admirers would make of him, Horne Tooke was one of the intellectual giants of his day; and, among the higher and better informed of adverse politicians, those who affected to sneer, feared and respected, even while they scoffed; and, if they analyzed their own sensations, would have found more of envy than of scorn in the motives of

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last, destined to prove an iron-mask secret? and is the real person to escape unknown in the crowd of those who are retiring from the world?

From the peculiar style and spirit of the letters, the impression on my mind is, that Junius was an Irishman. At the same time, the mature knowledge of man and of the world displayed in every page, and their didactic cast, are clear indications that their author must have passed the middle age. The evidence is equally clear of his proficiency in legal knowledge, and familiarity with the conduct of both military and civil official affairs; and that a connexion with the higher political classes, afforded him early intelligence of court intrigues and manœuvres. The style of Junius, his commanding eloquence, terseness of expression, the beautiful harmony and singular cadence of his sentences, seemed likely to work a revolution in the tone of English composition. The announcement of his celebrated letter to the King, for a certain day in November 1769, set all our politicians and literary aspirants mad. The coffee-rooms were actually besieged on the important day, and the waiters bribed for the earliest perusal of the Public Advertiser! That pompous sentence,—“The name of Stuart, of itself, is only contemptible:

of their affected derision. With respect to his knowledge of the author of Junius: though we have heard some persons say that he was used to declare, “he knew who Junius was,” we are much disposed to doubt of his ever having made such an assertion; and we believe we may venture to affirm that he never named any person as the author of the letters so signed:—we know, that he would frequently declare, with an air of confident authority, not only that none of the persons named by pretended discoverers was the real author, but that it most assuredly *never would be known who was*. He professed also to hold it as an article of political conscience, binding upon every man of honour, who might happen, from any confidential circumstance, to be in possession of any secret of such description, to take care that no document should be left behind him, by means of which it could transpire. Into the refinement or the validity of the political casuistry of this maxim, we do not enter; nor do we think it requisite to inquire how far he might or might not mean thereby to insinuate, that he was himself in possession of the secret, or “that he could an’ if he would,” &c.; but we have good reason to believe, that this is the sum of all that the author of the Diversions of Purley ever declared upon the subject.—
EDR.

armed with the sovereign authority, their *principles* are formidable,”—has made a thousand literary coxcombs. All, however qualified, must now imitate the style of Junius: and the “mistaken notion” supervened, that the proper *Junian* style must consist entirely of short sentences. Hence, from inferior pens, those hopping, inharmonious, disjointed sentences, by which the sense was broken into so many distinct fragments, that the mind of the reader could with difficulty collect and unite them into an intelligible whole. The truth, however, is, that Junius made the best possible use of his short sentences, intermixing them most judiciously with the long. *Junius* should have been the translator of Tacitus: not Gordon, who burlesqued his style; nor Murphy, who merely transfused his sense, but let the spirit evaporate.

In the newspaper contention between the two political rivals, Horne seems to have had, substantially, the best of the argument; but Junius, as might be expected, bore away the palm of public applause. Not that Horne was a polemic of inferior literary attainment, but that he wished to make a nearer approach to political truth and real utility than accorded with the conceptions of the vulgar mass, high or low,—always superficial, or always hypocritical. The politics of Junius graduated exactly with the reigning fashion. He was an excellent second to Lord Chatham, that “prince (as he has been styled by a certain professor) of all political bugbears, that *pit* into which all England fell.” Whatever may have been the original motives of Junius, his tactics consisted merely of political badgering, and in ringing the changes on the British constitution, and the technicalities and peculiarities of its legal code. The simple and invariable object,—a removal of one set of ministers, to make way for another. From his writings, much of the principles of morals may be learned, little of the principles of politics. The latter were in those days seen through a dusky medium in England, with all her mighty boast of enlightened liberty. They were then secretly brewing in France and in America, awaiting the development of the American and French Revolutions. In this profound study, the illiterate Paine, on his shop-board, had made a greater progress than the academic Junius. Junius was not deemed a fluent writer. He professes to adopt an ornamented style,

style, and the *labor limæ* is visible in his every sentence.

It is pleasant, at this time of day, to con over the boast of Wilkes, that it had taken him but a year and half to write down one ministry, and that even less time would suffice him to despatch their successors! Alas! *tempora mutantur, politici etiam mutantur in illis*. How many Wilkeses and Junii, allowing that we possess any such, and how long a time, would be required to write down our present ministers! The first copy I ever possessed of the letters of Junius was published in 1772. It lately fell into my hands, in looking over a parcel of old books. I had made, I perceive, marginal notes in it, one of which I request permission to transcribe. In the celebrated and cauterizing letter to Lord Mansfield, dated November 14, 1770, Junius remarks, "Even in matters of private property, we see the same bias and inclination to depart from the decisions of your predecessors, which you certainly ought to receive as evidence of the common law." On this passage I have noted, at what period I know not, as follows, "This is certainly most questionable doctrine, leading to a slavish dependence of mind in a judge, and perpetuating all the prejudices and errors of antiquity. Besides, is not the judgment of a successor of equal value with that of his predecessor?" Our *juris positi* will not, I apprehend, hold in much estimation my legal crudities.

COÆSTANEUS.

P.S.—I last year conversed with a widow gentlewoman, with whom, in 1770, a private secretary of Mr. Burke boarded and lodged. It was in Hatton-garden. This gentleman, according to the widow's account, was in the constant habit of carrying vast quantities of MSS. to his principal, who, he insisted, among his intimates, was the writer of the Letters of Junius.

[We do not think our correspondent has done much towards furnishing the promised clue. Nor would his reference to his present Majesty, to Lord Lansdowne, the Duke of Grafton, the present Lord Mansfield, &c., in one of the passages, which, for the sake of brevity, we have omitted, in our opinion, stand in much stead in this respect. But his observations are valuable, in more points of view than one; and, with apology for the liberty of necessary curtailments, we give them thankful and ready insertion.—
ED.]

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR,

DR. Aikin, the original Editor I believe of the M. M. we are informed in his biography, served his apprenticeship in an apothecary's shop at Uppingham, in the county of Rutland; and it is not a little surprising, that that same shop should have been the prolific hive from whence have issued, in regular succession, no fewer than six distinguished characters. The first of these was William Fordyce, who, shortly after his arrival in England, settled at Uppingham. After a short residence there, he emigrated to London, where he commenced physician, and was afterwards knighted. But before his evacuation of his post at Uppingham, he shewed himself a prudent tactician, by establishing a brother securely in his place. This brother soon followed the example of resigning his situation at Uppingham to a younger brother, and proceeding to the metropolis, where he also commenced physician with tolerable success. The other brother followed in the same track, and with the like successful termination. To him succeeded another aspirant, more remarkable than them all; who, as soon as he had accumulated a sum which he thought sufficient for his medical *début* in the metropolis, set off, with his diploma in his pocket; but on his arrival in town, either through failure of his finances, or some other cause, he changed his ground, and engaged himself as clerk in a banking-house, or in the counting-house of a merchant: this was no less a personage than Fordyce the banker. But to return to the shop at Uppingham. Fordyce the last having no brother to succeed him, the shop was transferred to a relation, Maxwel Garthshore, who held it I believe some years, but afterwards emigrated to London, where he had considerable business as a physician and accoucheur; with him Aikin served his apprenticeship, and I have reason to think that, for a short time at least, he occupied the shop. It is worthy of remark, that there are few families in which so many individuals, living at the same time, have been distinguished by their talents and acquirements, as the two families of Fordyce and Aikin. Besides the brothers mentioned above, there was the author of "Sermons to Young Women," a writer of considerable eminence in his day; and also a sixth brother, who was lost early in life,

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on the coast of Holland. He was a young man of the greatest promise, having acquired much celebrity by his "System of moral Philosophy," and other writings. Of the Aikins it is unnecessary to speak, their merits and literary reputation are universally known.

I am, Sir, &c. &c.

For the Monthly Magazine.

INTERESTING PARTICULARS of the CONDUCT and DEFEAT of GENERAL MORILLO at MARGARITA.

CRUELTY seems to be the principal feature that marked the career of the Spanish generals from Penarío down to the arch traitor Morillo, whose atrocious conduct and perfidious policy to the poor inhabitants of Margarita merits universal execration, although it is but partially known in Europe. Having landed at Pompatai, on the island of Margarita, he got possession of the fortresses, at the head of seven thousand men. Perhaps there are few places better fortified by nature and art. It forms an amphitheatre around a safe and commodious harbour. On the eastern side is an eighteen-gun battery; in front, a twenty-four-gun battery; on the west, a six-gun battery; and on the pinnacle of a lofty hill, commanding the harbour and every approach to the town, is an eighteen-gun battery with heavy ordnance. A person might well suppose, that a force consisting of seven thousand picked troops, with such resources, were not to be conquered by a population of twenty thousand half-naked savages; but love of liberty, and hatred of the persecutions of an implacable enemy produce emanations of genius and exertion, where all advantages of culture and information seem to be denied. Morillo began his career of bloodshed, by summoning the better sort of creole inhabitants to Pompatai. Some appeared to the summons, and were made prisoners and put to death, without form of trial. On the inhabitants of this little island he levied contributions of ten thousand rations each day, until every ox on the island but three was slaughtered, and every sheep but ten, which the inhabitants petitioned might be spared to propagate the species; but they received a sarcastic reply, that as he meant to put them to death as rebels, they would not want food. This menace was accompanied by a detachment of four thousand men to the city of Alvalea, or La Ciudad, by which name it is better known, who

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pillaged and burnt the little paradise, of about eight hundred houses, uniformly built round a neat square, in the midst of the island. On each side of it were meandering rivers, encircling savannahs, and fertile plantations. It was the see, or residence of a bishop, who lost his life there. After plundering and demolishing the city, and putting such of the inhabitants as they could overtake to the sword, they rioted and feasted in sight of the ruins of their vandalism for ten days; after which they marched to Port le Mar, which they also demolished, and the little towns of Tonseca, Clepasso, and Parawatchee. The half-naked inhabitants, driven to despair by these cruelties, herded together in the impenetrable mountains on the northern district of the island; and began offensive operations by lying in wait for the Spaniards, and reducing their numbers; every bush concealing an enraged enemy (man, woman, or boy) to the vandal Spaniard. The Creoles now secured the only pass on the island, by which Nortey, Juan, Greego, and St. John could be attacked (on the top of a high hill on the mountain path,) by the incredible labour of digging a chasm across the road, so as to prevent the enemy crossing. Men, women, and boys, working incessantly, cut through a granite rock in the space of seven days and nights, while the indolent Spaniards were carousing and feasting. Morillo now marched to attack Nortey, but found, to his inexpressible surprise, that the Creoles had encompassed the hill, and were determined to dispute the pass; which he, however, seemed determined to carry, cost what it would. With this view he commenced the attack by a heavy fire of musquetry, and drove the Creoles behind their entrenchments, following close after them, but was repulsed in a manner quite as unexpected as novel; stones of an incredible weight being hurled and rolled down the declivity with such velocity, as to tear up the slope, and crush and bear every thing before them in a mass of frightful destruction. In this one attack he lost four hundred of his choicest troops, together with arms and ammunition. He renewed it next morning, with as little success. Finding his efforts vain and the pass impracticable, he returned to Pompatai, with the loss of seven hundred of his men; harassed, as he marched along, by a victorious enemy, close couched in the thicket, and quite invisible to his men. Morillo now find-

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ing that his cruelty and imprudence had spirited up and embodied an invincible enemy, had recourse to stratagems and negociations, with as little success: his perfidy and cruelty being fresh in their memories. His impolicy in burning the city was also evident, as the inhabitants had now nothing to lose but their lives, which he had rendered valueless, except for revenge. Bribes, threats, menaces, had no effect. After four months inactivity, sickness, want of provisions, and perpetual watching, the yellow or epidemic fever raging also among his ranks, with unabated virulence, during the rainy months, and carrying off from fifteen to twenty men a day, he determined to cut a passage on the southern side of the island, about eighteen English miles in length. He began, and continued this herculean task for the space of ten days, incessantly labouring day and night, until he found himself at the foot of a high mountain between Parawatchee and Juan Grugo, at the head of four thousand men, attacked on every side by an infuriated mob, that kept galling the workmen. This rabble force Morillo, in the morning, seemed to despise, and ordered the pioneers to continue working at the road; but finding the action getting hotter towards noon, he had to muster every soldier to oppose them, which he effected with the loss of about two hundred, being nearly equal on both sides. The poor Creole natives had no arms nor ammunition, but what they took from their enemies, amounting to about seven hundred muskets; and having little discipline, but what they learned, a few months before, from a few French refugees, then in the island, belonging to the dismembered army of Napoleon: the use of a firelock being unknown, and prohibited to them by the Spanish laws. General Morillo had to contend with savages half naked; but savages enthusiastic, vindictive, and brave; for on the following afternoon they assembled to the number of seven thousand, including women and boys, and began a fierce attack, which lasted until midnight, when the Spaniards began to give way. The women mingled in the affray, with long knives, and such weapons as they could find. A French officer (General Pino's brother) gives the following account of that midnight of horrors:—"Apollyon, the prince of devils, could hardly imagine any thing more horrible than this night's engagement presented to the affrighted spectator: a dark dismal night, the fright-

ful savage yells of the assailants, the shrieks of the wounded, and groans of the dying, joined to the tumble of such of the Spaniards as fell into their hands, and were hurried to the brink of a frightful precipice, called the Valley of Skulls and Bones, and thence precipitated into this frightful gulf, within about fifteen yards of the scene of action!" This lasted until four the next morning, when Morillo rallied his men, and formed about two miles from the scene of action, leaving the victorious Creoles in quiet possession of the valley. As neither party seemed disposed to renew the attack, he thought it prudent to decamp about twelve in the forenoon, leaving about six hundred of his unfortunate companions behind to perpetuate his disgrace, and whose bleached bones are piled up, as a melancholy trophy to the victors. He was now pursued to the very walls of the fortresses, by the victorious foe he so lately despised. He now, but too late, thought proper to abandon a spot, where the hand of God and man seemed combined to punish his perfidy; carrying with him less than three thousand half-famished soldiers, the remnant of seven thousand chosen men who accompanied him from Old Spain; and leaving the fortresses and guns to the victorious Creoles. They, very prudently, spiked and destroyed the guns, demolished the fortifications, and determined to run the chance of a protracted warfare, in preference to confining themselves to the town. Morillo embarked for the Spanish Main; on which stage he acted his tragical part, unequalled by any barbarian of ancient or modern history.

Description of the Island of Margarita.

Margarita is a beautiful fertile island, clothed in eternal verdure, and presents to the eye of the approaching beholder a second Eden; but is very partially cultivated, owing to the events of the late struggles for liberty, and, hitherto, the insecurity of property, added to the indolence habitual to the natives, who are more addicted to feasting, dancing, carousals, and music, than to habits of industry: as eight or ten days' labour will suffice to produce the year's necessities.

Society and Manners.—The people, like the Old Spaniards, are frugal, temperate, and abstemious; addicted to card-playing and cock-fighting. As the greater part are mulattoes or people of colour, their religion may be said to be a commixture of Romish and heathenish mummary,

mummery, derived from the different castes that gave them birth. The most remarkable features in the character of these people are bravery and generosity, to which I may add pride, vanity, and superstition. The whiter cavaleros affect to treat their blacker brethren with arrogant superiority. These are also determined not to be behind hand in retaliating on their less sable companions.

Towns.—La Ciudad, or the City of Alvala, the capital, is rapidly rebuilding, and is the residence of the governor and bishop, also of the principal inhabitants; possessing wood, water, and every other conveniency to build. The only river on the island runs through it; although it is asserted by geographers, that there are other rivers, but they are only stagnant pools.

Soil and Climate.—The soil is incredibly fertile, and well adapted to the growth of all tropical plants, perhaps superior to any of the West-India islands; but the little trade here does not stimulate the natives, being principally carried on, *via* St. Thomas's, by the Northern Yankees; as Great Britain, by a strange oversight, is paying very little attention to cultivating a good understanding with the New Western hemisphere.

Commerce.—Sugar, coffee, rum, and all other West-India products, may be had at Juan Griego, on more reasonable terms than in any of our British West-India colonies, in return for our manufactures, &c.

The present population is estimated at twenty thousand, being an increase of eight thousand since the year 1815. The militia of the island amounts to eight thousand, capable of carrying arms, every male being enrolled, from sixteen to sixty. As riflemen, or sharpshooters, they excel; and are well adapted to defend their own country. Their fidelity to the cause of independence and freedom is as proverbial as their implacable hatred to the Spaniards, all over the Spanish Main, where they fought.

The climate of Margarita is unhealthy, and ill adapted to Europeans; owing, perhaps, to the exhalations and vapours arising from the low, fenny parts of the island, and the prickly pear and bramble-bush by which it is overrun. From its fertility, medical men have given it as their opinion, that better cultivation would produce valuable and salutary crops.

For the Monthly Magazine.

Comparative View of French and English Agriculture: principally suggested by the perusal of an Article in the REVUE ENCYCLOPEDIQUE (No. 69), on the "Annales Agricoles, par M. Dombasle."

IT must excite the surprise of those who reside any length of time in France, to witness the imperfect state of agriculture in that country, and the rude methods by which the necessary labour of cultivation is performed, when compared with the agricultural operations of the best farming districts of England. Various causes might be assigned as having contributed to the defective system of agriculture in France. 1st, The operation of the feudal system previous to the Revolution, by which the occupying farmer was placed in a station very little removed from that of a serf to the soil. 2d, The severe exactions of the clergy. 3dly, The numerous holidays according to the Romish calendar, so productive of idle habits among the peasantry. And, 4thly, The state of abject ignorance in which the lower classes are kept, by the policy of the Roman Catholic dispensation.

It would require more space, Mr. Editor, than your miscellaneous columns could afford, to examine the operation of each of these impediments to agricultural improvement. I shall therefore dismiss the three former causes in a few words; considering the latter view of the question as one of the greatest importance in the present state of France.

The French Revolution must be admitted as having produced, among its many horrors, a considerable amelioration in the condition of the inferior classes.

With the abolition of the tythe system, also succeeded (to a certain extent) the abolition of the Romish holidays, or rather the *necessity* for observing such days, by devoting them to idleness, according to the discipline of the Romish church.

But although, in addition to these advantages, the sale of the national domains had the effect of creating a numerous, and perhaps a valuable, class of landholders; yet the abolition of the primogeniture law in France, though a very specious measure in the first instance, is now beginning to operate most seriously on the state of society in France; the infinite subdivision of property produced by this system, rendering the smaller classes of land-owners even too poor to cultivate their own lands.

But the greatest impediment to all improvement, whether in agriculture or any of the other useful arts, is the lamentable state of ignorance in which the inferior classes of society are kept, by the discipline of the Romish hierarchy.

The prohibition of all education, except such as shall emanate from its own pastors, has had the effect of keeping the peasantry in a state of ignorance approaching to barbarism. France abounds with able writers and compilers of treatises in almost every branch of science and art; but it is of little avail for the French savans to propose theories and publish learned dissertations, if they be not applicable or intelligible to the great mass of the community. That this is the fact, with regard to many of the mechanical and operative arts, in France, is perfectly well known. But probably in no other department does it prevail to so great an extent as in that of Agriculture. It is not, however, the want of industry or of proper implements, so much as the obstinate adherence to old systems, which makes the French farmer so much inferior to the English, in rendering a given portion of land available to the greatest possible extent. The ordinary French farmer is too ignorant to be aware of the importance of what an English farmer considers only as the first rudiments of his art,—the alternate course of crops. But as the writer of the article in the *Revue* is the best authority that can be adduced on this subject, I shall here beg leave to quote a few of his remarks.

By way of recommending an improved system of cultivation to his countrymen, he observes,

"That the system of alternate cultivation has now been adopted nearly forty years in the major portion of Great Britain. It has also extended to several parts of Germany; and, that its adoption has been invariably followed by a great increase of the population, and of national riches." . . . "That instead of producing bread only, according to the old system, year after year, with a diminishing product in all cases, after the first breaking up of the land, the new mode of culture yields a variety of products, more agreeable, more substantial, and in greater abundance."

Speaking of England, he farther observes,

"That many enlightened men are apprehensive of a superabundant produce! The opulence of the agriculturists; the easy circumstances of their agents; and the general

amelioration of the condition of the lower class of society*, in England, evidently prove the great advantages of the improved mode of agriculture. *Why then should we be the last to profit by it?* Is it not astonishing, whilst the English, who obtained, in the first instance, the mode of alternate cultivation from Flanders (one of our own provinces), and who have followed it with such decided advantages for the last forty years, that this mode of cultivation should be nearly forgotten among us, and scarcely ever adopted even in Flanders, its birth-place!"

The writer then proceeds to give the following reasons why there is so much difference in the adoption of improved methods of cultivation by the two nations:—

"The Flemish farmer (labourer) is the best working farmer in Europe: but he is scarcely ever able to read or write. All his knowledge has been derived from his forefathers, from whose methods of working, he never ventures to deviate. Place him in a new situation, or on a different kind of soil, where the maxims he has acquired are inapplicable, and he becomes quite embarrassed, and incapable of proceeding. The English cultivators, *being better educated*, do not confine themselves to a servile imitation. The facts presented to them by the Flemish methods, they have educated into a regular system. They have, in short, formed a complete Theory of the art, and, at the same time, put it in practice; while their numerous publications have contributed to disseminate its advantages among all classes of society who are capable of reading."

The writer then states some of the advantages to be derived from what he calls the *new system* of culture, and again takes occasion to state that the principal cause which has hitherto operated to retard the progress of agricultural improvements, "and which still exists," is, that "education has made such very little progress among the class of cultivators." But that "many reasons exist to render the present period very favourable to the advancement of agriculture in France."

These extracts would alone suffice to shew the accuracy of the previous remark, as to the primary cause of the low state of agriculture in France,—the absence of all kinds of education among the peasantry. But as the preceding remarks formed part of a review of the "*Annals of Agriculture*," recently published by *M. Dombasle*, which work refers

* We should be glad to see this improvement in the condition of the lower class of agriculturists.—ED.

1825.]

refers chiefly to his own practice on a farm at Roville near Nancy, undertaken for the laudable purpose of shewing the most improved methods of cultivation to his countrymen: it may not be amiss to give a short outline of his plan.

Some of the inhabitants of Roville (being fully aware of the superior state of agriculture in England), about two years since, formed a joint-stock company, for the patriotic purpose of establishing a kind of pattern or model farm (*ferme exemplaire*). The capital, subscribed for this purpose, was, what would be considered small by an English farmer, only 45,000 fr. (about £2,000), divided into ninety shares. A long lease was granted by a liberal land-proprietor, at a fair average rent, and the land put under the superintendence of M. Dombasle.

The situation, in which this gentleman stands, is that of a farmer who borrows all the capital that may be requisite; for which he pays 5 per cent. interest. It will no doubt excite the envy of all those, who are disposed to view an enterprize of the kind as an interested speculation; but it will at least solve the question, still undetermined by most persons, whether, under a good system of management, in all its details, agriculture is capable of repaying the interest of the capital which it employs, and at the same time afford a tolerable profit to the cultivator. To determine this important problem, M. Dombasle (who is a man of fortune, talent, and also a member of the Academy) has agreed to devote the remainder of his life. It is his intention to publish an annual detailed report of his "model farm," comprehending the practice and theory of the art combined.

Although this philanthropic scheme of Mr. D. is highly praiseworthy, and calculated, to have a beneficial result, to a certain extent, it is quite obvious to every one, who has witnessed the almost uniform obstinacy and disinclination of the ordinary labourer to adopt any new mode of practice, that its effects can be but very limited, unless education were at the same time extended to the peasantry. If M. Dombasle could prevail on the French clergy and government to sanction the dissemination of instruction throughout the population of France, as it is, at present, in Great Britain, another generation would render their peasantry many grades higher, not only in agriculture, but in all the other useful arts.

The fertility of the soil in France is, in the aggregate, much superior to that of

England. And if a proper system were adopted, by the use of better agricultural implements, and the rotation of crops, according to the English plan, France might increase the produce of her soil from twenty to fifty per cent. in value. But the extreme ignorance of the French peasant, and the apathy of the greater portion of the land-owners, renders them equally insensible to the advantages which might be derived from a superior mode of cultivation. The English, and, more especially, the Scottish farmer, however humble in circumstances, knows something of the *principles* on which the science of agriculture depends; but the French farmer, owing to the total want of education, is utterly unconscious both of the principles and the practice of agriculture, excepting such modes of operation, as have been handed down from generation to generation, by his forefathers.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR:

AT an early period of life, I spent some time at Lyme Regis, in Dorsetshire. This, with other associations of having relations resident there, has rendered the late calamitous account in the public papers of the recent damage done to the town and cob by the late tempests quite interesting to me.

Large sums of the public money have been, from time to time, liberally granted by Parliament, to render the harbour secure and commodious. I have viewed the erections for this purpose with some curiosity; and although it was the general opinion that the cob would have been capable of resisting the utmost force of the sea, I always thought that it would not prove adequate to its intended purpose. As this opinion has proved to be too well founded, I will venture to give an idea to the next engineer that may be employed; and should he not think it applicable in this particular situation, probably it may prove of some use at some other place. Experience has repeatedly proved, that solid, well connected, massy walls are quite inadequate to resist the force of a tempestuous sea: I therefore propose the erection of skeleton towers or cones, constructed of cast-iron ribs, connected together by circular pieces of the same material, having their stone foundations upon a common level with the beach. Large masses of stone may be placed in the interstices round the foundation, by way of additional security.

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A succession of skeleton towers may be placed at proper distances, which may be braced together so as to form a quay on their tops, where it may be thought requisite or convenient. I propose a sufficient number of these towers to be placed in advance of such solid masonry as may be thought indispensable to the safety of the shipping. These towers, by permitting the sea to pass in some degree through them, would not be so liable to be overthrown by its force as a solid wall, yet would, I imagine, break the mass of water, so as to render its fury harmless.—Your's, &c.

THOMAS HOWELL.

Clare Street, Bristol, 6th Dec. 1824.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*.

SIR :

IN requesting you to give publicity to this letter, I flatter myself that common humanity will, as on similar occasions, insure your assent, as it induces me to invite attention to a subject which I hope will interest your readers in general ; those, especially, who are connected with the navigation of the German Ocean.

Having no immediate concern myself in either foreign or coasting trade, some apology might be necessary, were it not that the disastrous consequences of the late turbulent weather must have excited emotions of pity in all. However remote, by inland residence, from the scene of suffering, humanity cannot fail to commiserate the distresses recorded in the daily papers, or to sympathize in the anxiety for promoting any design which may contribute to obviate the perils by sea upon our eastern coast.

They whose interests are deeply involved in commercial pursuits which expose the navigator to all the horrors of frequent tempest, in the neighbourhood of shores always numbered amongst the most dangerous, and so often fatal to their fellow-creatures, need no description, I should hope, of the loss of property from vessels stranded or ingulphed, to stimulate their exertions in behalf of such an object. By the exertions of *intrepid boatmen*, and by the aid of *Captain Manby's apparatus*, many lives have been happily saved ; but it is melancholy to relate what numbers are too often exposed to wreck, in the neighbourhood of those shores, beyond the reach of such assistance.

We daily and hourly hear many lamentations, that between HARWICH and the HUMBER there is NO HARBOUR to

which vessels in impending danger can resort. But lamentation availeth nothing ; and whilst, with submission to DIVINE PROVIDENCE, we endeavour to check the progress of epidemic disorders, why do we not employ the means within the sphere of human abilities to prevent the increase of shipwrecks ? The subject of this oft re-echoed lamentation ought, years ago, to have been obviated.

Some little time since, a project was formed for opening a passage from *Lowestoff* to *Norwich*. Whether that design was *rational* or *irrational* is of no importance to the present object ; but in the discussion of that subject, evidence was elicited that *Lowestoff Roads* are more tenable in a storm than those of *Yarmouth* ; and that a capacious harbour, well-adapted for a considerable number of vessels, might be formed in *Lake Lothing*.* An application to Parliament cannot fail of meeting its approbation ; and the expense of forming the harbour is, from all the information I have received, too inconsiderable to be put in competition with the loss of lives and property from the want of it ; and merchants and mariners possess the means of ascertaining the practicability of the design, and its competency to the end proposed.

Let that fact be well ascertained, and all maritime towns connected with the traffic and navigation of those coasts, will readily co-operate in the effort for providing such a place of refuge. No opposition can be apprehended from the Lords of the Admiralty, or from the Masters and Brothers of the Trinity House ;—from the under-writers at Lloyd's, or the merchants and mariners trading

* Lake Lothing is a fine piece of water, upwards of a mile and a quarter in length, situated about half a mile to the southward of the town of Lowestoff, on the coast of Suffolk. Its average width is from 270 to 290 yards, containing at least 160 acres of water. Its average depth, in the middle, is about ten feet ; and this might be regulated by flood-gates, and by taking advantage of the tides, so as to be made deeper, if required. Its narrowest end, to the high water-mark of spring tides, is less than 400 yards.

It has been declared by a person competent to judge of the subject, and perfectly acquainted with the spot, to be well formed by nature for a harbour, whether considered as to its size, depth, surrounding shore, contiguity to the sea, and comparative height or level of its surface with that of the sea at high or low water.

trading along the coast of Norfolk.—
Your's respectfully, F. DRUMMOND.
Rosary, Norwich, 7th Dec. 1824.

To the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*.

SIR:

I SHALL be greatly obliged if you will allow me to present to the public the successful result of an experiment of truly vital importance. Chance has discovered to me that oil, taken frequently and for a considerable time, has magical powers in alleviating the pangs of child-birth. Perhaps a detail of this experiment will, therefore, be acceptable. One day I sat ruminating, almost in despair, on an approaching event, of which past experience had made me dread the recurrence. Vague rumours had reached me that oil was found beneficial in certain circumstances, in the mitigation of acute pains, but I never could learn *why*. Seeking for information on a subject so interesting, I turned over the leaves of an old medical book, written by the celebrated Dr. Radcliffe, physician to Queen Anne. I wished to know in what diseases oil was prescribed, and *wherefore*? My attention was instantly riveted by the very curious remarks Dr. R. makes in various places on the salutary effects of oily medicines in that painful disease the stone. I immediately determined to try its effects in my own case; and every day, for six months, I took a large table spoonful of Florence oil. Only a mother can judge of my anxiety during this interval, or of my delight when, at the crisis, a considerable alleviation of the usual suffering was the happy consequence. The faculty will, perhaps, forgive a simple woman for daring to peep into their books, especially if a successful experiment has been the result. It is not, however, to be supposed that skilful practitioners would try on such authority new experiments on those whose lives are entrusted to their care. But as, in *five different instances*, and on *two separate subjects*, I have proved it to be as efficacious as it is a safe and simple remedy or alleviation, I venture to recommend it to professional adoption. The remembrance of the cruel fate of our dear and lamented Princess would alone be sufficient to give importance to every discovery and consideration connected with this subject. It is impossible to give *here* more explicit information on this subject, without departing from that reserve which, in a

station purely private, best becomes our sex; but I cannot think that I should discharge my duty to society if I suffered the knowledge of a fact capable of such extensive application to perish with me. S.

[We think it necessary to state, whatever may be thought of the practical value of this communication, that we are in possession of the real and respectable name of the lady by whom we are favoured with this communication; and have ascertained, upon authority equally respectable, that as on the one hand there are not even the remotest possibilities of any personal interests connected with the statement, so upon the other the facts described are considered in the circle of her immediate friends as of equal authenticity and importance.—ED.]

Mr. KLAPROTH'S APPRECIATION of the ASIATIC HISTORIANS.

THE history of ancient nations naturally divides itself into three parts: 1. *Mythological*, which contains a portion of truth, enveloped in an impenetrable veil of fables and allegories, commonly referring to astronomical periods, calculated at an early time, and subsequently transformed into dynasties of heroes. 2. *Uncertain History*, in which the facts are true, or at least are not improbable, and the personages real, but the chronology either unnoted or unascertained. 3. *True History*, in which the facts and the chronology are clearly recorded. This latter, however, begins but very late, among most Asiatic nations: it does so, generally, only when writing becomes prevalent—when the caste of the priesthood has fallen into decay, and science has risen to control the power of rulers.

Among the *Mohammedan* nations of Asia, viz. the Arabs, the Turks, and the Persians, religion has destroyed the whole of ancient history; agreeably to the principle, not only that whatever is not conformable to the Koran is untrue, but that it is even an impiety to believe it.

The real history of the Arabs scarcely advances to the fifth century of our era; it connects itself with the traditions of the Old Testament, and farther on is lost in fabulous uncertainty. Even their own writers of sense reject most of the facts previous to Mohammed, from whose time their history may be said to begin.

Persia was conquered by the Arabs during the seventh century, and subjected to the Mohammedan religion. The fire-worship was destroyed, and with

with it almost all the historical records of earlier dates. The history of the *Sassunides*, the last dynasty of the Persians, from the year 227 to 651 of Christ, has been preserved in some state of purity by the indigenous writers, although its chronology is not very certain, and the facts are of little importance. The Mohammedan history of the Parthian and Persian dynasties, from the death of Alexander till about the third century of our era, is a mere list of kings, and that very imperfect, unaccompanied by any chronology. Nor do we find among the Greeks any thing like satisfactory information concerning that period.

The history of the Persian sovereigns, from Cyrus to Darius or Alexander, is entirely disfigured by the native writers, and completely deficient in dates. Thus they make Alexander a son of Darius, and of a daughter of Philip of Macedonia, who, after having been married to Darius, was sent back to her father, owing to the badness of her breath. Previous to Cyrus, they place the mythological dynasty of the *Pishdadi*, which begins with *Kaioomarath*, who is taken, by some for Adam, by others for Noah, and by others, again, for a grandson of Shem.

The almost exclusive source of those histories is the great poem of *Firdusy*, *Shah-naméh*, which was composed about the beginning of the eleventh century of our own era, and for which the author pretends to have consulted the books of the fire-worshippers and of the Greeks. But, nevertheless, the native Persian history is as irreconcilable to the latter, as it is with the few uncertain historical remains that are met with in the books of the Parsi in India.

The nations of the Turkish race who have embraced the Mohammedan religion, and with it the use of the Arabic characters, have no dated historical monument previous to that period. The annals of the various dynasties which they founded in Persia, Asia Minor and Egypt, were, for the most part, composed in Arabic or Persian, by natives of those countries; and only the Ottomans, now reigning in Constantinople, possess historical works in their native language.

During the reign of Gazan Khan in Persia, at the end of the 13th, and at the beginning of the 14th centuries of our era, *Khodja-Rashid* wrote, by his orders, a history of the Mongol nation, founded, on one hand, on the ancient

Mongol documents then in the archives, and, on the other, on the traditions still current among the people. This is the *Djama'a Attavarikh*, an extremely valuable work, which is the only source from which subsequent Mohammedan writers have drawn their information respecting the Mongols, Turks and Chinese. Unfortunately, however, the author, like all other historians of his religion, could not avoid mixing up with his Mongol materials the Hebrew traditions that are received by the Mohammedans; and the result is a universal confusion, which makes the work nearly useless for history. *Abool Ghazi Bahadoor Khan*, who in 1663 made a Turkish extract of *Khodja-Rashid's* work, and continued it in an abridged form, has increased this confusion still more. His work, however, of which there are two bad translations, is trust-worthy in all that concerns the history of the Turco-Mohammedan dynasties.

Among the few Turkish tribes who are not Mohammedans, and who have remained in their ancient seats in Asia, no historical document whatever exists, at least none of which we have any knowledge.

Among the Hindoos, religion has destroyed every historical monument. Considering this life as but a transitory period of pain and trials, they regard its events as unworthy of being preserved. Plunged in the contemplation of mysterious formulæ, all their efforts are directed by a total annihilation of all moral faculties, to carry back their spirit into the bosom of the Universal Soul from which it emanated. This is the cause why the English have not been able to discover in India any historical work written in the primitive language of the country; for the histories of the Mohammedan dynasties which have reigned in the country, are written, for the most part, either in Persian or the Hindostanee. Some of the Hindoo epic poems, such as the *Mahabarata* and the *Ramayana*, have some historical subject for their basis; but it is so enveloped in fable, and their chronology is so defective, that with the utmost labour nothing can be obtained from them but a few bare conjectures. They speak, however, evidently, of some conquerors who had come from the north, and gradually driven the aborigines of the Peninsula, who were probably of the negro race, before them, till they compelled them to take refuge on the island of Ceylon. These conquerors are incarnations of the

the divinity, who descend from the Himalaya mountains, subduing giants and evil genii. Their astronomical tables, as has been lately proved, are of a comparatively recent period.

There are, however, some very pure sources from which a Hindoo history and chronology might be drawn, viz. the innumerable ancient inscriptions which are found in all parts of the country. They have, for the most part, been collected by the late Colonel Mackenzie, and are now in the hands of the East-India Company. A publication of them would be more valuable than of all the *Vedas* and *Pooranas* taken together, of which a few specimens are sufficient to give us an opinion. The same observations, that I have just made on the historical chasm among the Hindoos, may be equally applied to all the nations who have embraced their religion, unless where its effects were counteracted by Chinese civilization. The Tibetans, however, seem to have historical documents, as high as the beginning of our era. At that period, the religion of *Buddha* was introduced into Tibet, and with it the art of writing, without which history is impossible. But the history of a nation so secluded as the Tibetans, between their steep mountains and deserts, would be of little interest to the general history of the human race, were it not that Tibetan priests introduced their religion among the savage nations of modern Asia, and thus humanized a set of barbarians. Thus, Tibet has, by a purified branch of the religion of Hindoostan, tamed the character of the Mongols, formerly the ravagers of the world. It is true that the worship of *Buddha* had spread before to *Kashgar*, *Khotan*, and other countries of central Asia; but the invasions of the hordes coming from the East, and subsequently the progress of Islamism, had caused it to disappear from among them again.

(To be continued.)

To the Editor of the *Monthly Magazine*.

SIR:

I KNOW that your motto is *Salus populi suprema lex*, and that you will freely give admission to any recipe that will restore or support it into your excellent and widely-spread Miscellany. I wish to direct your attention to the condition of Ireland, and recommend a prescription for its cure. That country forms no small or mean part of the strength of the empire: yet it is generally neglected, or its common

plaints attended to in a manner that only serves further to expose them, without a hope, even, that commensurate good will ever be afforded. Travellers into the south, without being masters of the art, can depict scenes that would harrow up the soul; they can shew whole families without habitations, or the youth of the country in crowds, congregated from want of employment, dropping successively to the earth, destitute of what the English peasant would turn from—the exclusive potatoe meal.* It is impossible for the human mind to conceive all the varieties of wretchedness that the forlorn Irish endure, and often patiently. It has been said, and it is believed, that the government of England turns a deaf ear to their petitions: they have seen this in

* If this were always to be had, and they had clothes, however coarse and mean, to protect them from inclemencies of the weather, and fuel for the hearths of their chimneyless, mud-built cabins, their condition would not, by them, be thought deplorable; for the potato is a wholesome and nutritious root, and it is to be questioned whether the Irish peasant would exchange it for our wheaten bread. But we have seen them thronging both the streets and roads, shivering in such wretched shreds and strips of filthy rags (women and men), as rendered their state even more obscene than nakedness; receiving with hungry avidity, yet sharing with fraternal sympathy among their equally miserable compatriots, the offal leaves of vegetables and the parings of potatoes, from the charitable door. And we have collected, on the spot, in the respective neighbourhoods of Dublin, Cork, Limerick, &c., the well-attested facts of whole families of these our wretched brethren, having existed, or dragged on, rather, the decrepid and miserable shadow of existence, week after week, with no other food or sustenance than the weeds and nettles they could gather from the dikes and hedges, to boil in their else useless skillets. And yet this was not at the time of that great dearth, as it was called, when we, on this happier side of the Channel, were, at the same instant, receiving shiploads of every species of edible produce, from the estates and lands of Ireland, and subscribing our shillings and our pounds to redeem from the extremity of famine the very peasantry by whose toil the exportable superfluity had been produced.—Oh! “there is something rotten in the state of Ireland,” which neither the repeal of the proscriptive and degrading Catholic restrictions, nor the specific of our correspondent, how desirable soever both may be, can efficiently remedy.—EDIT.

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in the Parliamentary refusal of Catholic Emancipation, and they believe all the rest. All their wretchedness, all their privations, all their miseries, are attributed to this alleged callosity; and with this general belief, it cannot be expected that tame or ready obedience to the laws, that have been made, or may be made, will be given. Intelligence reaches the remotest cabins; report, from the chagrin of the disappointed Aggregate Catholic Body, impetuously rushes into every habitation; and the slight of the English Parliament is howled in every village. "They might if they would," it is exclaimed, "relieve poor Ireland; but they will not: and yet they expect obedience and respect. It is the wish of every Irishman to be second to none in the empire, to be equal with any or all other subjects under the same dominion. They believe, if the Parliament will not grant them what is merely conscientious, and costs nothing, it will not extend any part of the public treasure to their relief or improvement." But the English Government is not exclusively to blame: the cause of the greatest affliction of that fine country, blessed as it is with a soil that assures abundance to industry, is the numerous absentees from it. Here, here is the chief cause of the evil, or the chief evils which afflict them. The poor peasant trembles as often as his rent day is seen in the prospect; he perceives the rack renter's agent, with looks truly indicative of the barbarous feeling within, demanding, not merely at the cabin door, or that of the small farmhouse, his claim—but on the floor, on his miserable hearth; and the harsh sound creeps through his veins, unmans him, and bereaves him of all courage. The general cry, in return, is, "I have it not yet; have patience; consider my childer, my ould father, or mother, there in the corner; I will pay you shortly; I have a trifle due, or I am about to sell part of my stock, or a horse, or a cow, and will freely give you the whole. Pray have mercy, and be kind to me." The absentee-men hear nothing of this, or any thing like it. With the hardly-earned produce of their tenantry, they are, or may be, now revelling, with hearts light and careless, among the Monsieurs of the continent; or, perhaps, among their female relations, unlearning the true Irish disposition, and imbibing those propensities which, when they do think of honouring their country by a visit, will serve only as so many moral plagues, to

distress still more the already most distressed. Shame on the men who pauperize the beings who ought to be dear to them, as so many links of the same chain,—as so many members of the same large family!

Mr. Editor, in this country you know nothing of the consequences of the desertion of it by the educated, by the intelligent and proprietary classes: you may lose a few, and they may be spared, but your aggregate intelligence and wealth stay with you, and dispense again, in some sort, to the community, what the common labour produces for them from the soil. But, alas, it is not so with poor Ireland. Her proprietors wander over every region, dissipating in riot, ostentation and extravagance, what is wrung from the misery of their tenantry, and the exhaustion of their estates. Can these wandering prodigals, like the prodigal in the parable, cast an eye to their country and not turn self-accusers, in language like the following: "All this endurance, all this misery, this affliction, is justly attributed to us; we might have prevented all, or the greater part, by our presence, our influence, our example. We might have instructed and enriched the Irish mind, and made it co-equal with the most enlightened of the world. We grieve; we will hasten to our own domiciles, our own hearths; spend our rents among our too long deserted tenants, and rescue them from the gripe of proctors, and pettyfoggers, and middle men." Peasantry of Ireland! cease to blame the English Government for its apathy: continue to blame rather your own absentees, until you perceive the effects of something like the above lamentation!

In short, Sir, I cannot better conclude than in the language of my Lord Norbury, the Irish judge, in giving a late charge to the grand jury of Westmeath, "I consider," said he, "the absentees as the great curse of Ireland: they will, however, come sneaking back again, and you will, of course, use them civilly; but don't forget to tell them what you have been doing while they were absent—above all, don't forget to tell them that they have been the chief cause of it all"—i. e., of the disturbances, executions, &c.

T. H.

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR:

BY a paragraph lately in a newspaper, it appears that a couple, whose names

names (if named) I now forget, and therefore, for my present purpose, will suppose to have been Boaz and Ruth, attended at a church to hear the marriage ceremony read to them by a Warwickshire clergyman, who proceeded therewith, and it must be presumed with all clerical gravity, 'till the production of "the hoop of gold, a paltry ring," at which the Warwickshire lad and lass, "with sweet but silent intercourse, looked and smiled, a look and smile to brutes denied."—Far was it, at that fatal moment from their thoughts,

'That while Jove holds us out the bowl of joy,

Ere it can reach our lips, 'tis dash'd with gall

By some left-handed god."

(Tale of woe!) "The parson skrew'd his face into a gloomy smile," cast off his holy garb, withheld the pious benediction and amen, and so, unwedded, left the melancholy pair. Charity would hope that Boaz and Ruth contemplated a union agreeably with the divine injunction; and which would have been effected, but for clerical interposition—an interposition which no Oxonian or Cantab ever read of, in the sacred page. Boaz and Ruth might have married like their namesakes of old, but, in the present constitution of society, some *civil* ceremony is indispensably necessary, and might, therefore, be observed, without subjecting parties to the violation of conscience, or whimsies of a clerical casuist. And now, Mr. Editor, whilst I have pen in hand, and an inkling for scribbling, allow me to state what in the marriage ceremony of the *Church of England* seems to border closely upon idolatry, *viz.*, the declaration of the husband to the wife, "with my body I thee worship." Had I met with such language in the works of Tom Paine, I should have been appalled, and have inferred that the infidel was at his gibes. But there is a faculty in some persons,

"Who can with ease,
Twist words and meanings as they please—" and I have been told by some of this tribe, that "worship," in a canonical sense, may either import *adoration of the SUPREME BEING*, or *civility and respect to a WIFE*. If the term has so equivocal a meaning, applicable, in a different sense to the Almighty, and to a frail creature, ought it not to be expunged from the marriage ritual; to ease the consciences of those who may not in all instances have quite refinement and subtilty enough to understand a canoni-

cal *double entendre*? In addition to this worship of the lady, she must have a dowry, *ad libitum*, or by wholesale; that is to say, for so the saying is, she shall be "endowed with all his worldly goods;" notwithstanding that the lawyer, a few hours before churching time, may have taken pretty good care to reserve the most part of such goods for the said husband's use. Don't you think, Mr. Editor, that this is, with a witness,

"Playing the changes upon cases
As plain as noses upon faces?"

THE HERMIT.

South Petherton, 27th Nov. 1824.

[We wish our merry hermit (whom perhaps it might not be quite improper to remind that it is possible to be more merry than wise) had subjoined, at least in a note, the particulars of the incident to which he refers: for, either in the *text*, OR *at the foot of the page*, we are disposed to think that the *facts*, in every history, (whatever flourishes the historian may choose to indulge in) should be made intelligible. We have some remembrance of having lately met, in the daily papers, with more instances than one of what appeared to us a species of diseased conscientiousness, or, as Dr. Johnson would have said, *scrupulosity*, about this same marriage ritual, both on the part of the couples and the clergymen; and of rather alarming inconveniencies, in a moral point of view, that have resulted from them. If these had been simply and plainly quoted, it might have given a more obvious inference to the merry mockery of our correspondent. In the hope, however, that the incidents, alluded to, may be sufficiently in the memory of our readers to make that inference apparent, we give place to a *part* of the hermit's pleasantries.—ED.]

To the Editor of the Monthly Magazine.

SIR:

ACCORDING to your invitation in p. 413 of your Magazine for this month, I cheerfully forward you my mite of contribution, on the new road-making, or M'Adamizing system. J. M. L.'s echoing animadversion, on the statement of Mr. M'Adam's finding the plan answer well in the country, "That HE finds it answer well, there can be no doubt," I must say, understanding, as every body must, the feeling which could dictate this repetition, that I am persuaded, whatever the little spirit of jealousy or envy may prompt to the detraction of such a man, posterity (human and animal, if the latter could,) will unite to erect a monument to him, far more worthy of attraction than the Achilles of Hyde-park, with all

the tears of the widow and fatherless which it records.

You must know, Mr. Editor, our little pleasant town of Woburn, within the last six months, has undergone the operation of M'Adamizing. At first, some of my neighbours were grievously displeased that the good old large stones should be taken up and broken in pieces:—stones, which one of the Dukes of Bedford, nearly a century ago, at his own expense, caused to be brought from that land of which Mr. M'Adam is an ornament. On their removal, many, very many, hard words were uttered, and much clamour about “dust in summer, and mud in winter;” the only objections of any moment. I have heard produced. Winter comes; and, sure enough, as it approached, we had mud in abundance: but good broad scrapers removed it to the sides, and then all was clean again. Then stages and wag-gons were in perpetual progress, and on the rains descending, their pressure brought up thick mud again. This being removed, another layer of the broken granite was thrown thinly on; and now, we have had no scraping, to the sides of the road, for nearly a month past: and though, so far as wet weather is concerned, we have had as much winter as we may reasonably expect, we have little more than a *thin dirt* on the surface, not deserving notice. All is hard and smooth, and carriages bowl along in a delightful style.

There is, Sir, one of your correspondents, whose name I am happy to see, in your pages of this month—Mr. Farey. He knows Woburn, and the materials, round it, for road-making, well. To that gentleman, Woburn is much indebted for very many useful improvements, when he was steward under the late “Great Duke of Bedford.” To Mr. F. we are obliged for our neat and commodious footpaths, begun and completed at no expense, I believe, but the mere labour. Not less useful is Mr. M'Adam, likely to be to us. May prosperity attend them both, and every improver of his country, whether he may *excavate* roads below, or cover them above!

And pray, Mr. Editor, can we have any roads without labour? or permanently good roads, without temporary inconvenience? You know well the metropolis, that place of *my* birth—what would be the condition of its streets, were it not for the constant employ of its scavengers? Now, only let us wait, and give the new system a fair trial; and I shall

be much mistaken if, in all your London, as well as country streets, we have not less of dust to subdue, and mud to remove. For when, in summer, our water-carts come into action, the advantage of the new over the old roads and streets will be apparent; for as water falls on the *granite dust*, one of the strongest of cements, it will fill up the interstices, and bind, in one immovable mass, the small angular pieces below. Living, as I do, directly fronting the main street, being six yards across, the usual width, I believe, of the M'Adam roads in the country, I have watched its condition every day. You are aware, Sir, that Woburn is on the high-road to Manchester and Liverpool; consequently, we have great numbers of stage-coaches passing day and night—not less than twenty-four in the twenty-four hours. Now, as all these coaches, with great numbers of other carriages, have narrow wheels, it is notorious how adapted they are to *cut through* the hardest road, running, as they do, exactly on the *same track*; yet have we hardly the marks of the wheels, much less *ruts*, between here and Dunstable, although we had them so plentifully before.

Sincerely wishing, that, in every sense, we may all be in the practice of mending our ways, I am, Sir, a reader from the beginning of your useful magazine,

W. CASTLEDEN.

Woburn, Dec. 7, 1824.

[The facts of this letter are valuable, as far as they go; and some obvious inferences may be drawn from them respecting the streets of London: but they do not meet all the objections of our correspondent. J. M. L. And again we invite attention to the *pro* and *con* of the *local* question.—Ed.]

For the Monthly Magazine.

L'APE ITALIANA.

THE Italian bee, notwithstanding the redolency of her own climate, is sipping sweets again from the blossoms of our Parnassus; and to shew the fondness of her emulation, seeks honey from the thyme that grows upon our very loftiest heights.

The London press has just ushered into the world an Italian's homage to the sublimest of our poets.

Il Paradiso Perduto di MILTON. *Versione Italiana* di GUIDO SORELLI. Cantos I., II., and III.

Of all the poetical works of our language, the *Paradise Lost* of Milton seems likely to be best adapted to the genius and taste of Italy. The English poet

poet unites so much of Italian softness with his unrivalled grandeur and sublimity, that we are surprized the attempt, to give a faithful translation of his works into Italian verse, has not been more frequent and more successful: for we are far from admitting that dignity and sublimity are inconsistent with the soft air of Italy, or with the genius and sweet melody of her language: as the *Inferno* of Dante, the *Gerusalemme* of Tasso, and the dramas of Alfieri, indeed, might sufficiently testify.

As the translation of Felice Mariottini is the only previous Italian version to which we can, at present, turn,—and we are not disposed to draw critical comparisons upon the authority of passing impressions and vague remembrances,—it is to that alone that we refer in any comparative estimate of the translation by Sorelli, now before us.

Mariottini, in his translation, though it possesses considerable merit, does not adhere to the text of his author with the scrupulous fidelity necessary to do perfect justice to the ideas and graces of the original: and we confess that, in a translation, we could sooner excuse some little dilation of phraseology (if that were necessary) than suffer a particle of the thought and feeling, or what might be called the mental idiom of the original, to be lost.

The work before us, has, however, we think, taken something more than the utmost of justifiable latitude, in this respect. Not that we can accuse the translator of any interpolation of thought or imagery; in this he has been sufficiently guarded. He seems to have erred more from the want of that prompt and copious familiarity with the resources of his own language (which is, indeed, to the translator, in general, even a more indispensable requisite than an *equally* extensive familiarity with the entire vocabulary of the language *from* which he translates), than from any misapprehension of his author. Indeed, he seems to have a just idea of the duties of a translator in this respect, and has followed his author with a simple fidelity very rarely to be met with.

We must, however, instance one slight misapprehension in the very outset.—The first hemistich of our divine bard, upon the fine discrimination of which the whole of the theological moral of his poem, in reality, turns, is thus rendered:

“Dell' uom primier l' inobedienza.”

Thus giving the epithet to *man*, instead of *obedience*; which changes the sense of the author.—“The disobedience of *the first man*, instead of *man's first disobedience*.”* And again, further on, he turns Leviathan into a whale. Mariottini seems to have understood this better, as he has rendered it

“Leviatan, la marina belva,” (the sea-beast).

Such instances are, however, very rare: indeed, our quotation of these two verbal instances may, in some degree, suggest the general correctness of the whole translation. It is seldom that a translator leaves us leisure for such microscopic animadversion.

The versification (as far as an English ear may be allowed to judge) appears to be smooth and easy; the style is chaste and perspicuous, and there are many passages of sweetness and pathos. In the loftier flights, the translator frequently wants force and strength of pinion. His language does not harmonize, sufficiently, with the boldness and grandeur of the original conception. His imagination does not warm and kindle, enough, with the primeval fire. His thoughts do not breathe deep enough; and his words do not burn. For instance, in that fine passage of Milton,

“Round he throws his baleful eyes,
That witness'd huge affliction and dismay,”—

the translator's apprehension evaporates in,

“In giro gli occhi sconsolati ei manda
Testimoni di duolo sterminato:”

which would have been correct enough had Milton only said, “Around he throws his disconsolate eyes, witnesses of excessive grief.”

Again:—

* According to the theological system of Milton, and which runs through the whole work, it was not the *first man* only who sinned in the disobedience of Adam; it was man altogether,—aggregate man,—man, without discriminative article or epithet,—the whole incipient human race, who, in the person of their universal progenitor, voluntarily disobeyed. Hence the original sin in which, upon this hypothesis, we are all born. Upon this principle it is that Milton rests, throughout, his system of ethics and theology, and “justifies the ways of God to man.” A more serious mistake, therefore, trifling as it appears, the translator could not have fallen into.

Again :—

“ Ampio teatro
Ai desolati,”

certainly derogates from the original, by want of the personification.

We must notice, also, some of the most flagrant instances of dilation. The passage beginning,

“ Say, muse, their names first known,
who first,” &c.

consisting, in Milton, of sixteen lines, is rendered into twenty-three of the Italian; though the heroic lines of the translation are from two to five syllables longer than ours. Again, these three lines,—

“ Thus they
Breathing united force, with fixed thought
Mov'd on in silence to soft pipes, that
charm'd

Their painful steps o'er the burnt soil,”—
is thus rendered into six :

“ Taciturni
Non altrimenti progredian costoro
Spirando ardire unanime, e pensiero
Sol uno incommutabile al concento
Che dolcissimo, fea non disastrosi
Parere i malagevoli lor passi
Sul suol combusto.”

Having thus noticed what we think reprehensible, both in individual inadvertencies and more general faultiness of execution, we will proceed to the more pleasant part of criticism, and give a few passages, with the beauty as well as the fidelity of which we have been much pleased : and then, regretting that our columns will not allow us to quote more liberally, we will take our leave, for the present, of Signor Sorelli; sincerely hoping soon to be favoured with the continuation of this valuable work, which we feel assured will not diminish in interest as it proceeds; as some of the ensuing books contain passages of sweetness and tenderness of which the Italian language is so susceptible, and which the translator appears well calculated to render with all the justness of requisite feeling.

Satan's first speech to Beelzebub is thus happily rendered :*

“ If thou beest he ; but O how fall'n !
how chang'd
From him, who in the happy realms of
light,
Cloth'd with transcendent brightness, did
outshine
Myriads, tho' bright ! if he, whom mutual
league,
United thoughts and counsels, equal hope
And hazard in the glorious enterprise,

“ Se quel desso
Tu sei.... Ma oh come decaduto ! ah
quanto

Da quel dissimigliante ; che nei regni
Beati della luce in transcendente
Fulgor vestito, le migliaia vincesti
In isplendor ! Se quello a me congiunto
A' tempi andati in alleanza alterna
Nei pensier, ne' consigli, in equal speme,
E nel cimento all' alta impresa, or meco
Nella stessa ruina a pari stretto
Dalla miseria ! in qual abisso oh vedi
Da quale elevazza traboccati.”

Again the speech,—

“ Fallen cherub, to be weak is miserable,
Doing or suffering : but of this be sure,
To do aught good never will be our task ;
But ever to do ill our sole delight,
As being the contrary to his high will
Whom we resist,”

is not only beautiful, but somewhat more compressive than usual :—

“ L' esser debole agendo o sofferendo,
Ell' è miseria, o cherubin caduto !
Ma tieni indubitato, che ben fare
Non mai sara compito nostro ; e sola
Porrem mai sempre nel mal far la gioja :
Come contrario al-grado di colui
Che per noi si repugna.”

Space will not allow us to do more than refer to the passage, in the second canto, describing Satan rising to undertake the perilous expedition in quest of the new world,—“*Infra gli eletti*,” &c. (Canto II. p. 56); the Invocation to Light, at the commencement of the third canto; and also the Adoration of the Angels, in the same book,—“*Non si tosto cessato ebbe l'Eterno*,” &c. (Canto III., p. 97); which are all faithfully and beautifully rendered, and we hope will be sought, by our readers, in Signor Sorelli's own pages.

For the Monthly Magazine.
THE PHILOSOPHY OF CONTEMPORARY CRITICISM.

NO. XL.

The Quarterly, Edinburgh, and
Universal Reviews.

HAVING said, perhaps, quite enough of the political philosophy (or philosophy, as Vanbushel would have orthoëpised it!) of our three arch reviewers, we turn our attention, as we promised, to their “literatism,” commencing with the Quarterly. The first article, of this description, which presents itself

Join'd with me once, now misery hath join'd
In equal ruin : into what pit thou seest
From what height fallen.”

itself to our observation, is a review of *Meyrick's Critical Inquiry into Ancient Armour, from the Norman Conquest to the Reign of Charles II.*; which is thus introduced:—

"There is no branch of antiquarian research more interesting in itself, or more useful for historical illustration, than the study of the armour of the middle ages. The subject awakens every association which belongs to the olden time of romance. It is interwoven with all the splendour of chivalry; the din of Paynim battle, the alarms of feudal combats, and the festive but perilous encounter of the courtly joust and tournament. Among those monumental effigies, which are, frequently, our only records of armour, some cross-legged figure, in the aisles of our venerable cathedrals, will occasionally recall the memory of the heroic enthusiasm and mistaken piety of the crusader, and conduct us, in idea, through his toilsome march and deadly conflict with the Saracen: at such a moment, his contempt of suffering and of danger; his sacrifice of home and kindred; his ready endurance of torture and death,—rise at once before us, and forbid us from censuring, with severity the madness of his enterprise. Or, if we turn to the rude paintings and illuminated MSS. of the times, for armorial costume; the 'well-foughten' fields of honour, the glittering array of steel-clad warriors, the solemn display of judicial battle, the gayer lists for trial of knightly skill and 'ladye-love;' the baronial hall, the minstrelsy, the mask, the banquet, and the ball, spring up before us in dazzling and fantastic imagery."

In this preliminary paragraph there is quite enough, we suppose, of that picturesque sentence-making which constitutes fine writing, to please a majority of that class of readers to whom the reviewer appeals: nor do we object to it on that account. It is no unfitting prologue to the anti-historic sentimentality about "the Age of Chivalry," which ensues. But the flourish about pre-eminent "interest and utility," &c., has become so mere a commonplace, in almost every article, on almost every subject, with the manufacturers of critical disquisition, that it may fairly be questioned, whether, in nine instances out of ten, it is to be regarded as an instinctive recurrence of technical cant, or a make-weight quantity, to eke out the measure of the page. Its obtrusive frequency reminds us of the advertisements of Steers's Opodeldoc, which used, heretofore, to make their regular appearance in one or other of the newspapers every day, from Christmas to Midsummer, and from Midsummer to Christmas again—beginning always with

the same specific words, "At this particular season of the year, when," &c.

The costume of ancient armor is, undoubtedly, an amusing subject of antiquarian research; but what is there in it, more than in multitudes of other topics, to entitle it to any vaunted pre-eminence of utility or interest?

But it is not in this assumption of imaginary importance alone, that the writer manifests his taste. It is conspicuous, also, in the peculiar *intelligibility* of his metaphors. Take, for example, the first sentence of his second paragraph:—

"But, dispelling the illusions of fancy, it is by *reducing* the *inquiry* into the changes of armour to the *standard* of sober reason, that the subject acquires its historical value."

Reducing inquiry to a standard, appears to us, we confess, rather an extraordinary process. Conducting inquiry according to the dictates, or in obedience to the principles, &c. of sober reason, would be modes of expression we could understand. But inquiry, we should suppose, includes the idea of process, or progression; and to reduce progression to a *standard*, does, to our apprehension, appear about as comprehensible as "a progressive standing still." Nor are we, among other novelties of metaphorical compost spread over these pages, much more delighted, either with the euphony of diction, or the *chiar'oscuro* of imagery in the sentence, when we are told, that "the illustrious individual at the head of the Ordnance," is "the last person who should be indifferent to the preservation of our military records, to which his own achievements have given their *crowning splendour*."

Achievements may indeed confer a crown of splendour upon individuals, or upon institutions—but here, Splendour herself becomes the active agent in the coronation; and crowns—what? why Records! Such slips of the pen, the customary results of perpetual quest of the flowery and ornamental, might perhaps be excused in any but a belles-lettres critic, especially if glossed over by any redeeming grace of euphonous collocation; but, "his own achievements have given their *crowning splendour*," flows with as little felicity of utterance to the ear, as could well be contrived, in the structure of any sentence involving so large a proportion of liquid elements.

The article, however, is not without its

its merits; and in the justice of the following passage we readily concur:

"Since the Homeric age, there has never occurred, perhaps, an era so exclusively military, as that which is comprehended between the tenth and the fifteenth centuries. Almost every order of society mingled in the work of slaughter. Monarchs, nobles, and the inferior proprietors of the soil, found in camps their common theatre of action; and free cities poured forth bands of armed burghers to protect their harvests, or manned their walls with artizans, who enjoyed security within them, by no other tenure than their own good swords."

A precious picture, undoubtedly, of that splendid "age of feudal chivalry" which is "gone for ever!" when monarchs, nobles, &c., were but so many captains of constituted banditti, and rapine and spoil were privilege and glory;—when merchants and traders had no other defence against those illustrious depredators but "their own good swords;" and the London apprentices (lightly as, in these piping days of trading and democratic civilization, we may estimate city valour,) were obliged to issue forth, every now and then, in armed battalia, and drub the chivalrous young nobility into good manners.

In the passage that immediately follows (a palpable imitation, almost a paraphrastic plagiarism, from Gibbon) there is more of sentimentalized romance than of the result of a philosophic spirit of historical research:

"During this long and turbulent period, the influence of the softer sex tempered the passion for arms, and the fierce and brutal spirit of feudal anarchy was gradually calmed and humanized by the progress of romantic sentiment. It is a trite observation, that we are indebted for the polished courtesy of modern society to the institutions of chivalry."

To those who, in compliment to an aristocracy priding itself in tracing all tenure and distinction of descent to acquisition by the Norman sword, affect to disdain all historical research beyond the gloomy and desolating epoch of the conquest, this may sound plausible enough. But a better acquaintance with Saxon and Northern Antiquities would demonstrate, that it is for the abuses and oppressions, alone, of chivalry, that we are indebted to feudal assumption and Norman usurpation: not for chivalry itself. That it was from the northern nations, even in their remote and otherwise barbarous ages, that we derived that humanizing respect for the softer sex, which tempered and miti-

gated in some degree even the brutal fierceness of feudal anarchy.

Neither is the reviewer a whit more honest, when he ascribes the glories of the English bow to our Norman masters. It was the Saxon (always unrivalled in the skilful and vigorous management of this most certain and efficient of all military weapons) who winged the resistless shafts that "won the immortal glories of Cressy, Poitiers and Agincourt." The Norman, indeed, clad in complete steel, and mounted on horseback, enjoyed, frequently, at the easy price of a little horse-flesh and a few bruises of his impenetrable armour, the splendours of the triumph; but it was from the mass of the humbler population, almost exclusively Saxon, that the archers were embodied—by whom, in almost every obstinate and memorable conflict, the victory was purchased.

If we had space for mere amusive extracts, at second-hand, we would follow the Quarterly compiler through his successive articles on *White's History of a Voyage to the China Sea*, *Dupin's Voyages dans la Grande Bretagne*, and *Smyth's descriptive Memoir of Sicily and its Islands*; the *Travels and Voyages of Schmidtmeyer*, *Maria Graham*, and *Capt. Basil Hall in Chili*, and to the *Coasts of that Country*, and *Peru and Mexico*; and *Mengin's View of Modern Egypt* (*Histoire de l'Egypt sous le Gouvernement de Mohammed-Aly*), &c. &c. But there is yet another number of this Review in arrear; and till it shall make its tardy appearance, we must look for variety to other sources.

Of the superiority ascribed in our last to the EDINBURGH REVIEW, in point of talent, over its Quarterly rival, as well in elegant, as profound literature, exemplifications might be given in abundance, from a very judicious, as well as liberal criticism, on the *Posthumous Poems of Percy Bysshe Shelley*. We must confine ourselves to the following:

"Poetry, we grant, creates a world of its own, but it creates it out of existing materials. Mr. Shelley is the maker of his own poetry—out of nothing. Not that he is deficient in the true sources of strength and beauty, if he had given himself fair play (the volume before us, as well as his other productions, contains many proofs to the contrary). But with him, fancy, will, caprice, predominated over and absorbed the natural influences of things: and he had no respect for any poetry that did not strain the

the intellect, as well as fire the imagination, and was not sublimed into a high spirit of metaphysical philosophy. Instead of giving a language to thought, or lending the heart a tongue, he utters dark sayings, and deals in allegories and riddles. His muse offers her services to clothe shadowy doubts, and inscrutable difficulties in a robe of glittering words, and to turn nature into a brilliant paradox. He mistook the nature of the poet's calling, which should be guided by involuntary, not by voluntary impulses. He shook off, as an heroic and praiseworthy act, the trammels of sense, custom, and sympathy, and became the creature of his own will. He was 'all air,' disdaining the bars and ties of mortal mould. He ransacked his brain for incongruities, and believed in whatever was incredible. The colours of his style, for their gaudy, changeful, startling effect, resemble the display of fire-works in the dark, and like them have neither durability, nor keeping, nor discriminative form. Yet Mr. Shelly, with all his faults, was a man of genius; and we lament that uncontrollable violence of temperament which gave it a forced and false direction."

We had extracted much more largely from this splendid and highly poetical—perhaps, for criticism, rather too poetical article; but we are admonished by space, and by the recollection that the object, in this instance also, has fallen rather too much into retrospect: for there has been another number of "The Edinburgh," also, for a long time due.* We turn, therefore, to the more recent two-month oracle,

The Universal Review; or Chronicle of the Literature of all Nations. No. V. To this new intruder on the province of periodical criticism, our attention was drawn by the somewhat suspicious commendation of the Rev. T. F. Dibdin, of Oxford-prejudice and bibliomaniacal renown; who in his mis-nomered "Library Companion, or young man's guide, &c. in the choice of a library,"† characterizes it thus:—

* It has at last arrived, but too late for our present purpose—the more especially as the whole of its articles are of a political cast; and we have said enough of Edinburgh Review politics already.

† It ought certainly to have been called "The high Church Library Companion; or the young bigot's guide, and old bigot's comfort in forming an orthodox library:" for nothing can exceed the conscientious scrupulousness of Mr. Dibdin, in excluding, from notice, every publication, new or old, that might be unpalatable to the high-toned orthodoxy of church and state. In his enumeration of the periodical publications of the day, even the Monthly Magazine

"The plan of this review is excellent. It gives after the sober and sensible plan of the old and new *Memoirs of Literature*, published about a century ago, a brief analysis, with a few pertinent remarks, of each article: so as to leave the reader, generally, to draw his own conclusions from the facts adduced."

Now, this is a promise (if strictly adhered to) in the true spirit of the philosophy of criticism: for the popular practice, however profitable to the doers, of making the title-page of a book, a mere catch text, for a long and desultory essay upon a general subject, is neither more nor less than a species of critical quackery. But Mr. Dibdin's commendation stops not here; and what immediately follows, "seem'd to throw ominous conjecture," upon the laudability of process and purpose first ascribed. The second number, (the last then published) he informs us, lays before him—

"Among the larger articles, at page 239, of this number, is a review of the *Deformed Transformed of Lord Byron*. The preliminary remarks are penned with great vigour and unsparing severity against the immoral unpatriotic cast of the latter effusions of that noble Lord:—and with justice."

And in a note upon this note, having mentioned with like commendation, the severity of condemnation in the Edinburgh Magazine, this High Pope Literary, or Guide Infallible to library collection and youthful study, oracularly pronounces that

"In short to think, or speak otherwise [of the effusions of Lord Byron] were a species of stultification."

This is a mode of analyzing and stating facts, and then "leaving us to draw our own conclusions," which, if consistently pursued by the commended reviewers, could not fail of being exceedingly edifying.—But it is time for us to turn to the Review itself.

It

was too dangerously liberal, to be so much as mentioned: although even *Blackwood's Magazine* so honestly avows that this was the identical publication which first set the example, and gave the impulse to the public mind, which brought the periodical press out of the thralldom of frivolous imbecility, set the example of rational utility to the compilers and composers of magazines in general; and thus became the efficient cause of that high respectability to which publications of this description have since aspired.—[See *Blackwood's Magazine for December*, p. 523, &c.] There are other heads, also, under which this guide, to the collection of a library, has not been less prescriptively cautious in his enumerations.

It is true that in the number before us, there is much less of discursive disquisition than it has been, of late, the fashion to indulge in; and a larger portion of the respective articles is made up of quotations, and an approximation towards critical analysis. But the opinions of the reviewers are not, therefore, always, less imperative,—nor their judgments less decisive. A strong bias, upon certain subjects, is everywhere conspicuous: a spirit that pervades the whole. But whether this be the genuine spirit of the philosophy of criticism, or the anti-philosophical spirit of a certain party, our readers shall have an opportunity of “drawing their own conclusions.”

The “Universal” gentlemen have not yet done with Lord Byron. *Captain Medwin’s “Conversations,”* and *Mr. Dallas’s “Recollections,”* give them an opportunity of putting in their claim for a second course of Mr. Dibdin’s palatable commendation.

With their judgment, on the publications in question, we have no quarrel. They differ not much in the main from those delivered in our last Proëmium; and we are, as has been seen, no unqualified panegyrists of Lord Byron,—no apologists for the occasional perversions of his very extraordinary powers, and that disregard of the moral decencies and social sympathies of life, too frequently apparent in *all* his works. But let us see how *he* is spoken of by this *analyzing* reviewer.

“For the last half-dozen years, the world had grown sick of Lord Byron. His endless, cureless, and monotonous distresses; his reckless resignation to the torrent of calamity that was perpetually drenching him; his heart regularly broken afresh for the publishing season,—had fatigued even the young sympathies of the boarding-schools, and *general sempstresship** of the land. With the more mature class of cognoscenti, all mention of his Lordship had long dropped away,—he was an exhausted subject. Several years had elapsed since he had rung the last endurable changes upon metaphysics and blasphemy. The polite ear was tired of ‘Goddess Nature,’ and the loveliness of Atheism; the agonies of the noble writer himself, and the injured virtues of the devil.”—“The public mind of England might have laughed at his sorrows, and despised his unbelief,—the one as a paltry affectation, and the other as a

vulgar absurdity; but its more incurable disdain was founded on the bitterness, meanness, and duplicity of the individual; the low malevolence with which he made it the business of his life to insult the woman whom he was bound to protect and honour, and on whose property he was actually living; the heartless and silly acrimony with which he libelled his country; and the demoralized and contemptible career of his domestic life. The varnish and charlatanism with which no man was more studious of investing his character, should be stripped off, and this clever and contemptible peer should be seen no longer in his own theatrical costume.”

Is this, we should ask, the manner in which an analytical critic should have spoken, even of Lord Byron?—who, whatever else he was, and however he occasionally misused his talent, was unquestionably *one* of the first geniuses, if not *the first*, of his age. Is this an analysis of the publications of Captain Medwin and Mr. Dallas? In short, is it the language of criticism? or the language of Billingsgate?

But this is not the only instance in which a spirit very different from what we should designate as the spirit of analytical criticism appears to be manifested. We pass the bitter and inhuman railings against the miserable peasantry of Ireland (dragged, without provocation or necessity [p. 261], into a review of Geoffrey Crayon’s *Tales of a Traveller*), with a mere admonition to the party, for whom this railing reviewer obviously writes, that whatever that poor, famished and degraded peasantry are, it is misgovernment that has made them, and that keeps them such. Nor will we stop to analyze the consistency which, (in the article on *Venice under the Yoke of France and Austria, by a Lady of Rank*), at once admits (p. 331), that the crimes of Italy result from its being “an Austrian helot at this hour,” and “everywhere present the most revolting evidence of the lamentable efficacy of ignorance and despotism in degrading the human character,” and yet (in tenderness, we suppose, to *the cause!*) denies its sympathies to the dolours of the enslaved. We must pass on, at once, to the evidences of that *theological* spirit which the prophetic eye of Mr. Dibdin foresaw was to pervade this Review; and which he undoubtedly regarded as the very essence of “pertinent remark and fair critical analysis.” See Art. XVII., *Hodgson’s Letters from North America*, p. 400.

* This is another *new general*; and, from the length and teeth-crashing cacophony of the name, we suppose, of German discipline and extraction.

"Mr. Hodgson's picture of the state of religion in America, is, on the whole, discouraging."—"His description of the progress of Unitarianism, indicates the approach of a period, when it will require all the vigour of the orthodox church to withstand the torrent." [Mr. Wyndham's *vigour beyond the law*, perhaps!!!] "They have no Established Church,—no bishops in their stalls,—no prohibitory law on piety!"

Doleful state! doleful prospect! The people of America are left at liberty to worship God according to the dictates of their own reason, or their own consciences! and the Universal Reviewer apprehends that, wherever this is the case, the progress of reason and conscience will be too strong for orthodoxy, and overthrow *the Universal Church!!!*

"America is, on the one hand, the very sanctuary of the Shakers, the Jumpers, the Tremblers, the Memnonites, the Divers, the Swedenborgians, the Dunkers," &c. "On the other hand, in the high places of America, the fashion is FREETHINKING! a well-behaved civility to Christianity, and as well-behaved a rejection of all its characteristic doctrines; a frigid alienation from its life, and knowledge, and hope. Who does not know, that the first University of America, the Oxford of the New World, is all but professedly UNITARIAN? And who, but the little rotund personage, that sits in all his sacred swathes, in the front of his own caricature of the Epistles of St. Paul, as proud as any Episcopus that ever sat within his cathedral, will venture to call Unitarianism, Christianity?"

Now, in our apprehension (to say nothing of the degrading buffoonery and personality of the concluding sentence), this, instead of analytical criticism, is neither more nor less than downright dogmatical bigotry. We say nothing of the truth or the delusion of Unitarianism, or of Trinitarianism. But the partizans of both, we conceive, draw their opinions (according to the degrees and sources of their information, and their own comprehension of the evidence) from what they consider as the true history, and understand to have been the actual doctrines of Christ. If the historical evidence which satisfies the reason of one party, as to the authenticity of certain chapters or passages, convinces the reason of the other that they are interpolations; or if certain passages appear to the understandings of these

to bear one signification, and to *those* another, still each is Christian, according to his own apprehension of the religion taught by Christ; and, if either has a right to deny to his opponent the Christian appellation, the right of retort reverts to the opponent, also; and every sect has an equal claim to the dogmatical assumption of exclusive infallibility; and may anathematize, as anti-christian, all who do not understand, or, perhaps, without any understanding at all, believe, just as much, and just in the same manner, as the anathematizers themselves believe.

It would be unjust to take leave of the Universal Review without admitting that it has articles, unstained by theological or political digression, which manifest correctness of taste, and elegance of erudition—

"High, in a purer sphere, they shine afar!"

With the review of WIFFEN'S *Jerusalem Delivered*, in particular, we were much gratified. The vindication of the Italian poets (of the first order) from the charge of attachment to *tinsel conceit*, brought upon them by the interpolated conceits of their English translators, appears to us as just as it is liberal; and, indeed, the whole article is a beautiful specimen of acute and tasteful criticism. We were sorry, however, to meet, in such an article, an instance, though but a single one, of that new-fangled affectation of disjunctive construction, of late so frequent among the sickly secondaries of *tasteful refinement* and *fine writing*; and which mars the conclusion of the ensuing sentence.

"We do not disguise from Mr. W. that these defects are extremely serious, and that to persist in them, in his second volume, will be to *utterly extinguish* the value of his work."

Why not "*utterly to extinguish*," or "*to extinguish utterly*." This affectation of separating the sign of the infinitive mood from its verb, of which it is in fact a *syllable*, was first introduced, we believe, or at least first popularised, by Dr. Drake, in his "*Literary Hours*," and has since been rapidly gaining ground; but cannot be too strongly reprobated, or too cautiously avoided.

3 X 2

ORIGINAL

ORIGINAL POETRY.

ARIEL.*

WHAT sylph-like form before my eyes
Flits on the breeze and fans the skies,
With more than youth's elastic grace,
And more than virgin's heaven of face,
On glittering pinions lightly born,
Transparent with the hues of morn;
With star-like eye and glance sublime,
'That far outspan the arch of time;
And thoughts that breathe to mortal ears
'The speaking music of the spheres:
'That, floating on the enamour'd gale,
Awake the song of wood and dale?

Some creature, sure, with form endu'd
In nature's more extatic mood,
When, wearied with her earthy toil,
She peopled some ethereal isle
With essences, that no alloy
Of perishable dust annoy;
Yet gave awhile to flutter here—
A sample of that purer sphere,
Where into perfect life are brought
The teemings of her happier thought,—
For sprighting task, with power endu'd
The chains of matter to elude:
To glide, to flit, to swim, to fly,
Dive through the fire, or tread the sky,
Ride the curl'd clouds or billowy foam,
And on the thought-swift lightning roam!

Yea—in that cheek's transparent hue,
And in that eye's celestial blue,
And in that shape's ethereal mould,
The sphere-born spirit I behold!

Tell me, thou airy fleeting form,
Whose agile step outwings the storm,
When did that volant foot of thine
Revisit last the ocean brine?
When, underneath the oozy bed,
The sea-nymphs' cave of coral tread?
Or on the moon-beam lightly stray,
Or stars that pave the milky way?—
And whither now, thou dainty sprite,
Wing'st thou, and whence, thy airy flight?
What star, what meteor gave thee birth?
And whence thy mission here on earth?

"Whence I am, and where I go,
Wondering mortal, would'st thou know?
To the Swan of Avon, I,
Born by a daughter of the sky:—
She who touch'd, in elder time,
One blind old man with warmth sublime,
And one more near; but gave my sire,
In manhood's prime, her whole desire.

"Taught by them the spheres to roam,
I make the elements my home.
When the wind that heaves the deep
Rocks the ship-boy to his sleep,
To his slumbers oft I seem
Imag'd in some glorious dream.
Then I climb the slippery shroud,
While the winds are piping loud.

* The general idea, and several of the lines of this poem, have been taken from an article found among the long-neglected correspondence of the Monthly Magazine.

On the sea for pastime, I
Make my cradled canopy;
In the conch's re-echoing shell
Seeking oft a tuneful cell;
Whence the sailor's startled ear
Seems the mermaid's song to hear,
Threatful of the tempest near;
Or on halcyon wave I sleep,
Smoothly sailing o'er the deep;
And when stars are clear, or set—
Winds at peace, or wildly met,
Love I still to haunt the shore—
'Midst the murmur, or the roar;
Tripping light with printless feet,
O'er the yellow sands, to meet
Or chace the ebbing wave's retreat.
Swift as wishes, then I fly
To the distant bounds that lie
'Twixt the round earth and the sky;
Or from where yon highest star
Guides serene her twinkling car,
To the unfathom'd depths below,
Where the pearl and coral grow;
Nor the flooding lustre shun
Where now dips the wearied sun,
While the broad wave, glory drest,
Woos him to her burning breast.
Soon these feet shall kiss the wave
Where his Indian votaries lave.
There perchance, at evening hour,
Cradled in the fragrant flower
To whose bloom, from many a spray,
Night-birds tune the enamour'd lay,
Shrouded safe from mortal view,
Free I sip the honied dew;
While the bee, on busy wing,
Soothes me with his murmuring.

"Where the bee sips, there sip I,
On his fragrant couch I lie,
Or in Orient or the West:
But the cowslip love I best,
Where, by Avon's haunted stream,
Wove the bard my spell-wrought dream.
'On the bat's wing there I fly,'
Chaunting my witch-song merrily;
While each woodland, brake and dell,
'Ding-dong, ding-dong, ding-dong bell,'
Echo's the harp of Ariel.

"See, I wave my roseate wings!
Now my spirit soaring sings,
'Merrily, merrily, shall I live now
'Under the blossom that hangs on the
bough.'"

NO! OR YES!

AWAY, Love, with thy soft denying,—
Beauty decays on Sorrow's stem;
Tears are but drops which yield to sighing:
Why should thy bosom nourish them?
The hour is gone, and I will go,
Whether thou whisper *Yes!* or—*No!*
The spring is flowing o'er the fountain,
The sun and shadow seek their rest;
The wind has travell'd past the mountain,—
Doves found the seat of peace their nest:

[1825.]

And I will go,—for I can guess
 Whether thou whisper *No!* or—*Yes!*
 Shepherds their infants' lips are pressing,
 The village bell an echo finds;
 Calm gives the ocean's waves her blessing,
 Cloud after cloud round evening winds:
 And I will go—and I will go,
 Whether thou whisper *Yes!* or—*No!*
 Thy father in his cot is sitting,
 Thy mother looks for our return;
 Say—shall I plead our cause, befitting
 Hearts which so truly love and burn?
 Thy smiling blushes bid me guess
 Whether thou whisper *No!* or—*Yes!*
 J. R. PRIOR.

THE VOYAGE OF SHADOWS.

THE sky so calm, so blue and deep,
 Like liquid crystal seems to sleep;
 And the moon's white boat
 Carries shadows afloat
 To the clouds' recumbent steep.
 Anchor'd in space with a voyage so light,
 The air so sweet and the scene so bright,
 The sun's rays shine
 With a halo divine,
 As they seek the island of Night.
 The Evening Star, their dutiful guide,
 Smiles in the zenith of beauty and pride;
 And she leads them to rest
 In Time's natural breast,
 Away from the whelming tide.
 Thus Hope, and her favourites, Joy and Peace,
 Sojourn thro' cares, which intrude, but cease;
 For the higher they go,
 The less feelings of woe
 Embitter their fond release.

J. R. PRIOR.

ELEGY,

BY RICHARD WOODEHESON, ESQ.,
Late Vinerian Professor, and Fellow of Mag-
dalen College, Oxford.

FAIR is the freshness of our youthful days,
 While Hope and Fancy blend their golden
 beams,
 And air-built prospects giddy raptures raise:
 But faded now are all my youthful dreams.
 Fair is the scene which glads the owner's
 sight,
 In fertile fields of rural wealth secure!
 For riches, well dispens'd, give pure delight:
 Delight, my niggard means might ne'er
 assure.
 Bright is the lustre of patrician birth,
 The ermin'd robe, hereditary fame,—
 Titles and rank bestow'd on patriot worth!
 But no distinctions mark my humble
 name.
 Happy the lot of those, whom temperate
 Health
 Endues with active vigour, still the same,
 And nature-nursing Sleep, the ploughman's
 wealth!—
 But even health deserts my fragile frame.

Happier their fate, whom cheerfulness of
 soul

Awakes to breathe the clear empyreal air;
 While rose-lip'd Joy perfumes the spark-
 ling bowl!—

But dash'd my cup with bitterness and care.

Could I these various blessings all unite—
 Youth, riches, health, and cheerfulness
 and birth,

What could to me enhance the dear de-
 light?—

The dearer guerdon of my Delia's worth.

ON THE

DEATH OF A DAUGHTER.

I SAW a little playful girl

Blow bubbles on a summer's day,
 And laugh'd, with her, to see them whirl
 Up in the air so round and gay:
 Ah! me, how beautiful were they!
 All tinted with a thousand dyes
 Reflected from the sunny skies,
 And bright as morning dew in May.

Alas! they were as frail as fair;

For scarcely could the damsel cry

"Oh! father, father! quick, look there!"

But they would burst, and mock the eye,

Leaving it "fixed on vacancy."

And such, thought I, are all our toys—

Our brightest hopes and dearest joys:

They rise, they glitter, burst, and die!

Prophetic truth! within a week,

I saw that maiden on her bier;

And on her cold and lifeless cheek,

In silence, drop'd a sacred tear.—

Oh! Ellen, Ellen, ever dear!

Could nought avert thy early doom?

And has the dark and silent tomb

Thus clos'd upon thy brief career?

'Tis even so! that fragrant breath

Is from its goodly mansion fled:

Fair flower! the cruel frost of death

Lies cold upon thy beauteous head.

But thou shalt burst thy wintry bed:

Come Faith, come Hope,—Urania! bring

Visions of that eternal spring

Which shall reanimate the dead.

Bridport Hall.

J. FITCH.

THE BRIDAL:—A FRAGMENT.

"BLEST is the influence of the nuptial bond,
 When Virtue twines the knot!—when equal
 minds,

Urged by ascendance of congenial stars,
 With equal freedom blend!—O Sex! fore-
 doom'd

To rule by meekness, and with forceless
 power

Guide the tough sinew, or the stubborn will

Bend to thy genial sovereignty! what owes

To thee and thy benignant sympathies

The lordly pride of man! Nor ever dwell

Stern rectitude and glory so secure,

As when propitious Freia* lights the torch,

That sheds its influence o'er a virtuous bed.

* Freia. In the mythology of our northern an-
 cestors, the Goddess of Love and Marriage.

BRITISH LEGISLATION.

ACTS PASSED *in the FIFTH YEAR of the REIGN of GEORGE THE FOURTH, or in the FIFTH SESSION of the SEVENTH PARLIAMENT of the UNITED KINGDOM.*

CAP. CXIII. *An Act to Amend and Consolidate the Laws relating to the Abolition of the Slave Trade.*

This act begins by reciting, that it is expedient that the various enactments, relating to slavery and the slave trade, should be consolidated and amended, and proceeds to repeal all the statutes previously in force on the subject, and to make other provisions in their stead.

The statute then makes it unlawful, except in the cases afterwards specified, to do any of the following acts relating to slaves :—

1. To purchase, trade in, barter, or contract for slaves, or persons intended to be dealt with as slaves.

2. To carry away or remove, or contract for the carrying away or removing, or contracting for slaves, or persons to be used as slaves.

3. To import, or contract for importing, or to ship, receive, or detain on board any vessel, slaves, or persons to be dealt with in that character.

4. To fit out, navigate, or take to freight or hire, or contract for, any vessel for purposes relative to the objects, previously declared unlawful.

5. To lend or advance money, or become security for such loan, or contract for such loan, or the supply of goods, to be employed in purposes declared unlawful; or to become guarantee for agents employed in accomplishing objects or executing contracts previously forbidden; or to engage as partner, agent, or otherwise, in such purposes.

6. To ship, lade, or receive on board any vessel, money, goods, or effects, to be employed in accomplishing objects or creating contracts declared illegal.

7. To take the command, or to navigate, or enter on board, any vessel, in any capacity, knowing that it is to be employed in any of the purposes forbidden by the statute.

8. To insure, or contract for insuring, slaves, or any property to be employed in the execution of purposes forbidden by the statute.

In subsequent parts of the statute, all these acts, except the entering on board a slave ship as a petty officer, seaman, or marine, are made felonies, punishable with transportation, for a term not exceeding fourteen years, or with imprisonment and hard labour, for a term not less than three years, nor exceeding five years, at the discretion of the court, in which the offender shall be convicted. And the offence of serving, or contracting to serve, in the subordinate capacities referred to, is made punishable as a misdemeanor, not only in the parties themselves, but in their aiders

and procurers, with imprisonment for a term not exceeding two years. The conveying or shipping of slaves, or persons intended to be used as slaves, on the high seas, and within the jurisdiction of the Admiralty, is made piracy, and punishable, as such, with death, and forfeiture of goods and lands.

Besides these criminal enactments, the dealing in slaves, or contracting to deal in them, and the shipping them, are made subject to a penalty of £100 for every person so dealt with, one moiety to the king, and the other to the informer. All vessels fitted out for the purposes of the slave trade are declared subject to forfeiture, with all effects on board which may belong to their owners. Parties advancing money or goods, or giving security or becoming guarantee for such purposes, are made liable to forfeit double the value of the loan, or of the money which they agree to secure. Persons shipping, or contracting to ship, money or goods, to assist in accomplishing the objects declared illegal, are subjected to a similar penalty. Insurers of slaves, or property employed illegally, in reference to them, are liable to a penalty of £100, and to the forfeiture of treble the premium, and the insurance is declared void. It is also provided, that the criminal enactments shall not affect the right of informers to sue for penalties. Offences committed on the high seas are to be tried in courts of Admiralty; other offences, by commission under 46 Geo. III.; but all offences may be tried in Middlesex. Suits for penalties must be brought within five years; but slaves illegally imported may be condemned as forfeited at any period.

None of the provisions of the act are to apply to trading in slaves "*lawfully being*" within any colony or place belonging to his Majesty, in case the contract or transfer shall be made with the true intent of working the slaves within the same colony. Such slaves may also be removed, by land, or coastwise, from one part of an island to another, and from one island to another, within the same government, by special licence from the Governor. His Majesty also, by Order in Council, may, till July 1827, authorize the removal of slaves from one island in the West Indies to another, making regulations for their benefit, and taking security from their masters for the due performance of such regulations. Convict-slaves may be transported, pursuant to their sentence; domestic slaves may, after due entry and certificate, attend their masters by sea; and slaves generally may be employed in navigation, fishing, or, at the order of the Commander-in-Chief, in the military or naval service, without any liability under the statute.

Slaves.

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Slaves, or persons detained as slaves, seized in war, are to be forfeited to his Majesty as prizes, for the purpose of divesting all right which may be claimed by others; they are not, however, to be treated as slaves, but may, by order of the King in Council, be entered into the army or navy, or bound apprentices for seven years; and persons so apprenticed, in case of ill-usage, may go before the nearest judge of a Vice-admiralty court, who may, if the case be substantiated, fine the master in any sum not exceeding £100, and cancel the indentures. A bounty, not exceeding £20 for each person, may be paid to the captors of slaves in war; £10 to every commander of a vessel who may seize slaves illegally dealt with at sea; and £7. 10s. to every other person by whose exertions slaves so dealt with shall be forfeited.

The enactments of 59 Geo. III. c. 120, respecting the appointment of a Registrar of Colonial Slaves, his office, salary and duties, and the registry of slaves under his controul, are recited and re-enacted in the terms of that statute.

The act then recites, at length, the treaty with Portugal of 22d January, 1815; the treaty with Portugal of 28th July, 1817; the additional articles, to the convention

with Portugal, dated 15th March, 1823; the treaty with Spain, 23d September, 1817, and additional articles; and the treaty with the Netherlands, 4th May, 1818, with subsequent explanatory articles,—all relative to the abolition of the slave trade; and enacts the provisions, of several former statutes, for empowering the crown to appoint commissioners, judges, and arbitrators, to examine and decide on all cases of detention, seizure and capture, according to the stipulations of those treaties. The act, then, provides for the appointment of a secretary to the commission courts; for the filling up vacancies in the commission, by Governors of colonies; and for granting bounties on forfeitures, declared in those courts, on the same principle with the bounties on condemnations, in courts of Admiralty. When judgment shall be given against the captor, the treasurer may direct the payment of costs and damages: though his liability shall continue. Returns of all seizures are, once in six months, to be made to the Lords of the Treasury.

The operation of this act commences 1st January, 1825.

This statute is the last act, of general importance or interest, passed during the session.

SPIRIT OF PHILOSOPHICAL DISCOVERY, AND OF THE VARIOUS SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS.

THE *Revolution of Double Stars*, one of them round the other, has now been placed beyond any doubt, by the observations of M. Sturve of Dorpart, and Professor Amici of Modena, following up the observations which were so ably began by M. Mayer in 1756, and by M. Herschel in 1781. The double star in *Bootes*, marked 44, being of the sixth and the seventh or eighth magnitudes, R. asc. 14h. 58m., decl. 48° 21' N., appears from the observations upon its angle of position, made in 1781 and in 1819, to have experienced at least one revolution in thirty-eight years: a period so short, that we trust one or more young astronomers will henceforward direct their attention to the making of such frequent and exact observations on these two stars, as may afford them a confident hope of being able to succeed in deducing the magnitude and position of the orbits of the revolving star in this case. The double star in *Serpentarius*, marked γ 70, of the fourth and seventh magnitudes, R. asc. 17h. 56m. decl. 2° 34', has, since 1779, changed its angle of position three-fourths of a circle, shewing its periodic time to be about forty years, in a very elliptical orbit, as appears by the apparent inequality of its motion, at different periods. In *Ursa major*, the double star, ξ , of the fourth or fifth and the sixth magnitudes, will probably complete a revolution in about sixty years, in a very ellip-

tical orbit. These seem amongst the shortest periods yet assignable to the revolutions of the double stars. An abstract of M. Sturve's observations may be seen in Jameson's *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, No. 18.

Phosphorescent Surfaces of the Moon and Planets occasion their Light, in great part at least, and not mere reflection from the sun. This has lately been concluded by Professor Leslie, after an able investigation of the subject, inserted in Jameson's *Edinburgh Philosophical Journal*, No. 22. The light from the sun, falling on the moon's surface, is, the Professor thinks, almost entirely absorbed, and exerts there a power to cause the projection of a still greater quantity of luminous particles, which had previously lain combined with the substance; which substance he supposes somewhat to resemble the Bolognian stone, or sulphate of barytes, the subject of so much wonder near two centuries ago.

The Laws of Radiation from heated Bodies have been sought for, by Mr. W. Ritchie, in a course of experiments, which are lately detailed in Jameson's *Philosophical Journal*, No. 22; his conclusions are, that the quantity of the radiant heat from the surface of a body, is directly as its capacity for caloric, and inversely as its attraction; thus the metals, having a powerful attraction for caloric,

caloric, whilst their capacities for that fluid are small, allow only a small quantity of radiant heat to escape from them; at the same time that *glass, lamp-black, and paper*, having feeble attractions for caloric, with considerable capacities, allow caloric to radiate very plenteously from their surfaces. Mr. R. further infers the probability, that the atoms of caloric, emanating from the same source, do not all move with the same velocity: but with every possible degree of velocity, in an increasing order, until it verges into that of light; it being probable that light is merely caloric, moving with a very great velocity.

Extraordinary Effects of Refraction—Captain William Scoresby, junior, in his nineteenth voyage, in 1821, on the northern whale fishery, when at 160 English miles distant from the east coast of West Greenland, distinctly saw, for several hours together, certain cliffs and coast-lands of the same, of which himself and another person on board took notes, and made careful sketches, without being aware at the time, owing to the inaccuracy of the charts as to longitudes, of the great distance they were from any land. In his near approach to, and survey of this part of the Greenland coast in 1822, Capt. Scoresby was enabled clearly to identify Home's Foreland as one of the points so observed the year before; and by the concurrence, as to longitude, of his astronomical observation and his chronometers, in both instances, to establish the fact of a refraction, so unusually exceeding one-twelfth of the intercepted arc of distance, as to be equivalent to 8,500 feet in height of the cliffs seen! The horizontal refraction being in this case $34^{\circ} 47''$ greater than its mean quantity, or full one-fourth of the intercepted arc, instead of one-twelfth. Mr. Hood's arctic observations, recorded in page 77, seem to offer an explanation of the great degree of cold prevailing when these unusual refractions have been observed. Another equally, or more surprising thing happened to Captain Scoresby, junior, when near to Cape Lister, on the Greenland coast; he and the crew saw out to sea-ward, the distinct inverted image of a ship under sail in the clear sky, when no ship was in the least visible: and, by the aid of a good telescope, was enabled to ascertain, by the number and shapes of the sails, and the general rigging of the aerial ship, that the *Fame*, commanded by his father, gave rise to the appearance, and the circumstances were, minutely, so noted down. And accordingly, some days after, falling in with his father's ship, and comparing his journal of sailing, the same was fully proved to be the case: and the fact was also ascertained, that the *Fame* was, at the time, seventeen miles beyond the sun's visible horizon, and at a direct distance of near thirty miles. On the 7th of June, and on some other occa-

sions, related in Captain Scoresby's account of his late voyage, when the air was hazy, the *ice-blinks*, or reflected images of the surface of the sea painted on the haze, near the horizon, proved of service to Captain S. when his ship was beset with masses of ice; the map of the sea, for a space of twenty or thirty miles around him, and very far beyond the visible horizon, was so perfect, and so truly distinguished, not only the clear parts of the sea, but the kinds of ice floating on other distant parts, as to enable Capt. S. to ascertain the course he had to steer, or force his way, in order the soonest to escape from the ice into open water.

The Detection of Arsenic as a Poison.—Dr. Robert Christison has performed a most acceptable service to the profession, by publishing, in a late *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, the result of an elaborate course of experiments, establishing simple and unerring tests, by which one quarter of a grain of arsenic dissolved in 8,000 parts of either broth, tea, or coffee, with cream and sugar, porter, port-wine, &c., and taken into the stomach, and there mixed with the animal fluids, may be detected. A stream of sulphurated hydrogen gas thrown up through the suspected matter, previously diluted and prepared according to directions which he gives, and with which, doubtless, every medical man will acquaint himself, is the agent by which this effective separation of the arsenic is performed; the precipitated matter is then dried, black flux added, and as much of the mixture inserted into a glass tube, closed at its lower end but open at top, about three inches long and one-fourth to one-eighth inch diameter, as will fill it not more than half an inch from the closed end, which then is to be heated by the alcohol lamp: when soon the arsenic, if any be present, will be seen lining the upper part of the tube, with a metallic steel-like film or crust; the characters of which crust are so minutely described, and so evident, that henceforward, it is to be hoped, the difficulties of medical evidence will be removed, guilt more certainly punished, and suspicions removed from the innocent.

The Depth of Water produced by Dew, at Vivieres in the department of Ardèche in France, during the year 1823, has been very carefully ascertained by M. Flaugergues! On 125 mornings appreciable quantities of dew fell, which nevertheless amounted to only $\cdot 242$ French inches, or the $1\text{-}152\cdot 5$ th part of the depth of rain, which fell there (on 132 days) during this year, and amounted to 36-90 inches: the least depth of dew fell in March $\cdot 059$ lines, and the greatest in October $\cdot 749$ lines: the fewest dewy mornings were, 2 in January; and the most, 19 in October. The apparatus is described, and the observations at

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at length are recorded in the *Bib. Univ.*, vol. 25.

The Alterations of the Level of the Sea, as compared with the Land, which seem continually going on (see our 56th vol. p. 200), the waters rising slowly and progressively, higher by many feet, and then declining again with similar slowness, so as to return at length to the same level after considerable periods of time, have rather surprisingly been overlooked by philosophers, who in this instance appear to have been satisfied by the theoretic assurances of mistaken geologists, that the waters have been uniformly, but with extreme slowness, declining in height, ever since a period when the highest mountains were covered by them. M. Briencrona, with a view towards establishing data for future comparisons on this interesting subject, was at great pains, in the year 1820, to select thirty points on as many solid rocks, situated in different parts of the Baltic sea, and thereon deeply to engrave and designate lines marking the level of that sea. M. Holtström conceives, however, and has stated in the *Bull. Univ.*, that the requisite care was not taken previously to ascertain a mean height of the water, which these lines should have indicated. Mr. Stevenson, who has bestowed much pains on this subject in Scotland, finds, that the arithmetic mean between the highest and lowest states of two consecutive tides, is in most places, a very stationary point for being marked and recorded, from time to time, with a view to future comparisons as to the rise or fall of the sea.

Aurora Borealis. The Rev. J. Farquharson, resident at Alford, in Aberdeenshire, (lat. $57^{\circ} 12'$ N.) situated near to the southern limits of the terrestrial zone, wherein the appearance of *Aurora* is common, and to the southward of which it only occasionally appears, has made this hitherto mysterious phenomenon, the subject of a long and connected series of observations, his inferences from which are given at length in a late number of Jameson's *Edinburgh Phil. Journ.*: the most novel and important of these inferences are, that the luminous pencils of rays, which occasion the *Aurora*, proceed vertically from the earth, or nearly so, in a stratum, more or less compact, which is comparatively thin in its dimensions northward and southward, but which stretches a great way in length from east to west, at right angles to the magnetic meridian. This luminous stratum, when compact, is, by the principles of perspective, projected into a luminous arch: this apparent arch, and the stratum occasioning it, instead of being stationary, is almost continually in apparent motion; moving parallel to itself, sometimes to the southward, and at others receding northward: occasionally this motion is very swift, and the arch proportionably bright; on one evening, an

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apparent arch of *Aurora*, first noticed 45° N. of the zenith of Alford, in half an hour's time had reached $30^{\circ} 5'$ S. of the zenith, and then became indistinct: at other times, and more usually, the arch was faint, and had a very slow motion southward or northward, so that the brightness and motion are concluded to have a close connection. A brilliant arch of *Aurora*, which was visible to a part of Scotland, and great part of England, as far south as Croydon in Surrey, on the evening of the 17th of October 1819, was observed by Mr. Farey, in Borrowdale, in Cumberland, to have a similar motion southward and again northward, to those which are mentioned above. See the *Phil. Mag.* vol. 54, p. 328. Our esteemed correspondent Mr. W. Pitt, of Carlisle, (see vol. 49, p. 10), was not alike favourably circumstanced, in a very deep valley, for noticing the southward and northward motion of this luminous arch. In accordance with Mr. Hood's arctic observations, mentioned in p. 77 of vol. 56, Mr. Farquharson considers the usual region of the *Aurora Borealis* to be, above and immediately contiguous to that, in which the clouds are forming, at the time of its appearance: on one occasion last year, he saw an *Aurora* and a cloud come into contact; the latter, for a short period, became luminous in consequence, but the adjacent part of the *Aurora* vanished simultaneously. The meteorological and curious, amongst our readers, will, we trust, vigilantly direct their attention to such conspicuous *Aurora* as may appear, in order to make and record observations on the southward or northward motion of any luminous arch which may be formed. See Dr. Thieneman's opinion on this phenomenon in p. 234 of this vol.

Pretended *Parallel Roads*, or natural terraces, surrounding, in level directions, the skirts of mountains, composed of almost vertical rocky strata, such as those of *Glen Roy* in Scotland, have lately been observed by Captain Basil Hall, in the valley of *Coquimbo*, in Chili, in South America, and are described, in his voyage thither. When the modern fancies which ascribe these appearances to *beaches*, at the margins of a succession of ancient lakes on the spots, shall have followed, as justly they deserve, the fate of the former whims, which considered them as sportive roads of ancient giants!—and when the stratification of both kinds, the regular and the transverse (the latter by some called *stratula*) of mountains, has been more strictly attended to, without bias from preconceived theories, this phenomenon will (in a less obtrusive form than in *Glen Roy*) be found no very uncommon one: the upper parts of some of the slaty hills near *Snowdon*, in North Wales, exhibit this double stratification, viz. almost vertical and horizontal at the same time, an instance of which is shewn in the

3 Y “ Annals

"Annals of Philosophy," Second Series, iv. p. 412.

The *Shocks of Earthquakes felt at Sea* are phenomena which promise to throw considerable light on the cause of these shocks, in case that captains of ships would be careful and particular to note correctly the place of the ship, the time, and other circumstances of the shocks, and communicate the same for early publication in some scientific or literary journal. The ship *Layton*, on her voyage from London to Bombay, on the 27th of July 1823, in lat. $35^{\circ} 19' S.$, not far from Tristan d'Acunha, at $11\frac{1}{4}$ P.M., experienced a shock which awoke every one sleeping on board. The motion was tremulous, like that of a ship forced over a wreck or a rock of coral, and accompanied by a hissing noise: on examination, the ship's bottom had experienced no injury whatever. On the following night, at half-past two, another and a more violent shock was felt, and lasted a few seconds, but not so long as the first shock. On the 31st, after having run five or six degrees eastward, the Dutch brig *Phelentait*, bound to Batavia, was spoken with, in lat. $36^{\circ} 51' S.$, whose master reported that the first of the above shocks had been felt, but not the second, on board his vessel; but, unfortunately, neither the place of the ship or time of occurrence have been published.

The *Nearchus*, bound from South America to Calcutta, in May 1823, experienced a violent shock at sea, which lasted near four minutes; but no other particulars have been publicly stated.

The ship *Orpheus*, on her voyage from London to Ceylon, on the 10th of February 1823, at fifteen minutes past one P.M., in lat. $1^{\circ} 10' N.$, long. $84^{\circ} 6' E.$, when steering N.N.W., at the rate of five miles per hour, with a little swell from the S.S.E., the crew felt a motion, as if the ship was running over the ground, or some other solid substance; and at the same time, during sixty to sixty-five seconds, heard a confused grinding tremulous noise, affecting the ship in every part: they sounded with twenty fathoms of line, up and down, but felt no ground. The ship kept upright in her way through the water, and answered the helm, and therefore had not struck, nor did she make any water in consequence of the shocks experienced, although the first of them was so violent as to unship one of the compass cards in the binnacle. At five minutes past two P.M. of the same day, being in lat. $1^{\circ} 15' N.$, and long. $84^{\circ} 4' E.$, another shock was experienced, much slighter than the first; and about three P.M. a third, which was only just perceptible. See our 56th volume, p. 553.

Caltanissetta, in Sicily, has hitherto escaped the destructive shocks of the earthquakes, which have successively ruined most other places in its neighbourhood; and this circumstance has been conjectured to arise

from a remarkable fissure or crack in the earth, which extends from the mud volcano of *Terrapilata*, several miles, to the neighbourhood of St. Petronilla; which crack, during the shocks in other parts of the island, opens, to the extent of one to two feet in width, and thus, probably, harmlessly discharges the steam or other elastic vapours, which, but for this vent, would acquire, from the subterraneous fires of these parts, sufficient force to shake them destructively. On the last violent eruption of mud, in March 1823, the fissure opened as usual, and no further mischief ensued.

Meteoric Stones of Arenazzo.—Several of these fell in March last, near to the village of this name, in the papal dominions; loud reports, like thunder, preceded their fall. The largest of these stones, weighing 12 lbs., has fortunately been conveyed to the Observatory of Bologna, and is there preserved.

Astronomy.—The future perihelion of Mr. Pond's comet has been calculated, by Professor Enche, of Seeberg, near Gotha; from which it appears that it will be most clearly visible on the 14th of August 1825.

Dr. Westphal, in a communication from Dongola, $4^{\circ} 19'$ with the tropic of Cancer, observes that it is impossible for an inhabitant of our northern regions to form a conception of the magnificence and splendour of the southern firmament. Even the smallest star sparkles with extraordinary radiance, and the large ones blaze with a dazzling brilliancy. The zodiacal light, every morning and evening, is like the reflection of an immense fire; the effect of which is heightened to an inconceivable degree by the splendour of the five southern constellations.

Black Tea.—The Chinese, it appears, from recent experiments, have a mode of adulterating black tea, by means of sandy particles, or minute crystals of magnetic iron; sometimes to such a degree, that parts of the leaves may be lifted by a magnet. These particles may occasionally be detected at the bottom of a tea-cup.

Preserving Birds.—It has been ascertained by M. Temmick, Director of the Dutch Museum, that placing a small wooden basin, containing tallow, in each case, is more effectual in preserving birds from the attacks of minute insects than either camphor or Russian leather.

Fossil Bones.—The discovery of fossilized remains of unexpected animals, in sub-strata of the earth, seems to be the principal featural result of the geological researches of the present day. Count de Laiser, President of the Mineralogical and Botanical Academy of Auvergne, has taken from the great plateau of basalt and tuffa, between the two rivers of Coreze, and which is entirely composed of pumice and trachite, bones of very large animals, completely transformed into

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into carbonate of lime; an antler of stag's horn, transformed into agate; and out of a layer of pumice-sand, under the tuffa, some teeth, the jaw-bone and two horns belonging to a large unknown species of stag or elk; and a great quantity of other fossil bones; as also a grinder of the mammoth, found a little lower in the testaceous limestone, between the tuffa and the primitive soil. This is the first discovery, we believe, of organized terrestrial bodies under antient tuffa and basalt, and may throw great light on the relative ages of ancient volcanos.

Quadrature of the Circle.—The Institute of France have decided that this is an impossible and vain research, and exhort the learned, accordingly, to apply themselves to other subjects.

The Cutting of hard Steel by means of soft Iron, formed into a round thin flat plate, and mounted on a lathe spindle, mentioned in our 56th vol. p. 270, has been the subject of experiment by MM. Darier and Calladon, who found, that with a less velocity than thirty-four feet and a half per second, given to the circumference of the soft iron plate, the same had no action on hard steel; from which point, as the velocity increased, the action commenced and increased, until, with seventy feet velocity, the steel was most rapidly worn away, without the iron being affected: from which, and several other experiments, they conclude, that the force of percussion of the whirling iron displaces and tears off the particles of steel (as happens in striking a light with a flint and steel) and that this effect, so useful in sawing hard steel plate to any required shape, or in sawing out slits in it, is not occasioned by the softening of the steel, as some had supposed. With velocities from 130 to 200 feet per second, they found the soft iron edge to act rapidly on a rock crystal presented to it, and on agate, but the cut surfaces of these were too uneven and rough to promise any advantage to the lapidary from this mode of acting.

Grey cast Iron, when hot, is proof against the action of Sulphur.—Colonel A. Evans has made this discovery, after having experimentally proved, that wrought iron or steel, when heated and presented to a roll of brimstone, are almost instantly penetrated by the latter; plates of these metals, more than half an inch thick, were in less than a quarter of a minute, perforated with round holes, the size of the brimstone roll. In a crucible of grey cast iron, the Colonel found that he could fuse scraps of malleable iron or steel with sulphur, without the mixture acting at all on the crucible.

For producing a Draught of Air, out of the hold of a ship, or out of a mine shaft, or the top of a chimney, liable to smoke, it has been recommended by Capt. Warren, instead of a wind-sail, wind-trunk, or cowl,

having a close and rounded back presented to the wind, to insert there a wide-mouthed trumpet-shaped open tube, which shall, instead of excluding the wind from the top, conduct a condensed and brisk stream of air over the top of the pipe, shaft, or chimney, whose draught it is necessary to increase.

Practical rules, by which manufacturers may ascertain the *Strength of their Bleaching Powders*, the chloride of lime, have been abstracted by Mr. Brand in his Journal of Science, No. 35, from a paper on the subject, drawn up by Mr. Gay Lussac, for the use of the French bleachers; we regret that our space will not admit of giving these rules.

The Boiling Heats of Saturated Solutions of thirty-four of the most important saline bodies, have been determined with great care by Mr. T. Griffiths, and published in Brand's Journal of Science, No. 35, together with the per-centage of dry salt in most of them; we extract the following:

Name of Salt.	Boiling Point, Farnh.	Dry Salt in 100 pts.
Acetate of soda	256°	60
Muriate of soda	224	30
Sulphate of magnesia	222	57.5
Alum	220	52
Sulphate of iron	216	64
Sulphate of soda	213	31.5

The first and last of the salts here mentioned are also the extremes as to temperature in the table referred to; the extremes therein, as to proportions of dry salt, are as follows, viz.

Name of Salt.	Boiling Point, Farnh.	Dry Salt in 100 pts.
Rochelle salt	240°	90
Nitrate of potassa	238	74
Acetate of copper	214	16.5
Tartarate of potassa	214	9.5

The Absorption into the Veins and Arteries, and consequent circulation through the bodies of animals, of whatever substances, either liquid, gaseous, or in a state of vapour, as kept for a space of time, in immediate contact, either with the external or the internal surfaces of living bodies, was, some time ago, the subject of an elaborate course of experiments and observations, by Dr. F. Majendie, at Paris, the details of which were read before the Academy of Sciences; from which it results, that the rapidity and copiousness of the absorption is dependent on the fullness of the blood circulating at the time through the absorbent vessel, (See our 57th vol., p. 78). In a plethoric state, no absorption, or a very faint one, takes place; but on beginning to empty the vessels by bleeding, absorption commences and increases, accordingly as the plethora is removed, (See our present volume, p. 78). It appears, from the very curious experiments of Dr. M., that absorption does not take place in consequence of any attraction or affinity between the blood and the absorbent

sorbent matters; and probably, as appears to us, the effect may arise in consequence of what M. Venturi denominated the *lateral communication of motion*, exerted by columns of moving fluids; especially as the doctor found the absorption not to be dependant on the life of the animal. We strongly recommend the perusal of M. Majendie's memoirs to every medical man: a translation of it appears in No. 8 of *Silliman's American Journal*.

Electrical Currents may be variously excited.—In galvanic circuits, a watery fluid is, as is well known, interposed between solid conductors: and hence Messrs. Fourier and Oersted propose to call this the *hydro-electric circuit*. The recent discovery of M. Seebeck, wherein an electric current is excited in a circuit, formed exclusively of solid conductors, merely by disturbing the equilibrium of temperature of its parts, by heating or cooling them, locally: this they propose to name the *thermo-electric circuit*.

More recently, M. Dæbereiner has discovered that solid conductors of platinum, with interposed hydrogen gas, excite a powerful electrical current: to which last mode of excitation, perhaps, by way of distinction, the term *gaseo-electric circuit* may not be inapplicable. The *thermo-electric circuit*, under its various modifications, as to the number and alternations of the bars of metal in close contact, forming the circuit, and as to the places and degrees of applying heat or cold, or both, to its various parts, has been the subject of an elaborate course of experiments, by Messrs. Fourier and Oersted, in vol. 22 of the *Ann. de Chimie*: see also the *Quarterly Journal of Science*, No. 31. The *gaseo-electric circuit* (if so we may denote the very recent discoveries of M. Dæbereiner) has been the subject of two letters by him to M. Schweigger, which are contained in the *Philosophical Magazine*, No. 306. See also our 57th vol., p. 257.

PATENTS FOR MECHANICAL AND CHEMICAL INVENTIONS.

To JOHN WHITE, of Marylebone, Middlesex, for a *Floating Breakwater, for protecting a Harbour, or Shipping-place*.—15th January, 1824.

THE principle of this invention consists in using a series of large open rafts of timber, floating on the surface of the sea, and confining them there by mooring chains, in order to divide and break the force of the waves and swell of the sea, before they enter a harbour, shipping-place, or bathing-place, &c.; and the effect of such a mode of producing comparatively *still water*, having (as the patentee observes, in No. 271 of the "*Repertory of Arts*,") little, if any, tendency to cause silt or mud to accumulate in a harbour so protected, as almost invariably happens behind fixed piers or breakwaters.

Each individual raft, or frame, is described as composed of eleven beams of timber, sixteen to eighteen inches square; six of them of the length of about thirty feet, and the other five thirty-eight to forty feet long: the longer beams are disposed parallel to each other; two pair of them (touching one another), at the distance of twenty feet apart, and the other midway between these piers; and the six shorter beams are disposed across these, parallel-wise, three of them below, and three of them above the long beams: the two outer ones of these last, at twenty feet apart, and the other intermediate. The beams being thus disposed, fifteen strong copper bolts are passed through the several places, where three beams cross and lay upon each other, and are firmly secured by screw-nuts, or by riveting; and the ends of the timbers, which

project in pairs, beyond the bolted crossing-places, are further secured by being tightly lapped with well-tarred rope.

Such are the dimensions and mode of attaching together the timbers of each of the rafts, which, in medium cases, the patentee prefers; but he does not in his specification appear to rest his claims on any particular dimensions, or on this or any other particular mode of constructing or mooring his rafts.

In situations where only moderate-sized waves, or degrees of swell, have ever been experienced, perhaps rafts only two timbers thick at the bolting-places may suffice; and, on the contrary, where storms of more than ordinary violence are to be expected, or where very still water is required, other sets (of two or five timbers), to the number of one, two, or three sets, may be necessary to be piled up, in the order before mentioned, before passing the bolts through the whole of them; so that, by sinking deeper into the water, and floating also more above it, the waves and swell may be sufficiently broken, by passing over, through, and under the rafts; when securely moored, with their longest sides opposed to the wind, current, or waves. The several rafts to be disposed at their moorings, either separately, or in one or more series or tiers, and the latter either connected together by chains, or not, according as the situation may, to an experienced engineer, seem to require. In case of heavy kinds of wood being used, or the rafts, from any cause, becoming water-logged; empty casks or buoys must be affixed to their timbers, for securing at all times the necessary buoyancy.

General

General BENTHAM appears to deserve the honour of having first proposed a *floating breakwater*, to be composed of separate floats of wood, "of a triangular, or rather a prismatic shape," to be used in protecting Plymouth harbour, at the estimated first cost of £201,026. And, several years afterwards, Mr. DAVID GORDON included in his specification of a patent, dated 14th January 1822, the description of what he calls "improvements on floating breakwaters;" but of his intention to do so, the title of his patent, "for additions to steam-packets and other vessels," had, we submit, given no sufficient notice, to the crown or to the public.*

More than a year ago, Mr. White put himself to the expense of constructing three rafts, such as we have described above, and of so securely mooring them, near to the dock-yard, in *Dover Bay*, in Kent, that during the heavy gales of wind, and some tremendous seas since experienced, they have held fast at their stations, and had "the effect of breaking the seas, and causing smooth water for a considerable space to leeward" of them, as is attested by the signatures of three pilots and two naval captains employed on that coast, in the *Repertory*, before quoted: wherein, also, Mr. White remarks, that effective floating breakwaters may be erected in any situation, at one-twentieth part of the expense of stone erections; that such will act in any state of the tide; and are capable of being removed to other situations, in cases where, during war, too much facility might be given by them, towards the landing of an hostile army.†

To CHARLES MACKINTOSH, of Crossbasket, in Lanarkshire, for preparing a Water-proof and Air-tight Fabric of Hemp, Flax,

* See our remarks on this subject, in the second column of p. 244, and the note in p. 242 of this volume. If, as we have suggested, the newly enrolled specifications were examined by some competent person, and the titles of what each patentee has described and claimed (for frequently several, and those very incongruous matters, often are included in the same specification) were made out, as concisely as intelligibility would admit, for publication in the *London Gazette*, most useful information would thereby be given to ingenious persons, whose attentions are turned to the making of improvements, and to the public at large. At present, such persons can read, and be allowed deliberately to study, only a small part of the whole number of specifications, in full or at length, with engravings from their drawings, printed in the "*Repertory of Arts*," at very irregular periods after their enrolment, and sometimes so protracted, that the patents have first expired.

Or else, within the period of two years from the date of enrolment, an abstract or condensed account, accompanied by reduced engravings of essential particulars only, may be read by such persons, in the "*London Journal of Arts*," but without finding much correspondence between the dates of enrolment and the order of publication therein. The public, therefore, are much in want of some prompt and official information of the precise subjects which are embraced by the patents, granted by the crown, and completed by the specifications, signed and enrolled by the patentees; as also of the place of enrolment, in each case.

† Would not teak-wood be proper for constructing these rafts? See p. 438 of this volume.

Wool, Cotton, Leather, or Paper, &c.—
17th June 1823.

The principle of invention here consists in uniting together two thicknesses of the given fabric, with a film of caoutchouc varnish between them.

The India rubber to be used in the patent process, is to be cut, or shaved, into very thin shreds, and about twelve ounces of it steeped in about a gill of coal-oil or artificial *naptha*, distilled from the tar of the gas-works, in a vessel surrounded by steam, for promoting the melting of the elastic gum, into a thick varnish; which latter is to be strained through a wire, or horse-hair, sieve.

Two pieces of the fabric to be used, whether of cloth, silk, &c., are now to be cut to the same size, and each one stretched flat out on a frame; and then, by means of a brush, some of the elastic varnish is to be spread evenly over one of the surfaces of each of the strained fabrics, so as completely to cover the same; and the frames are then to be set by, in a dry place free from dust, until the varnish has set, and become sticky; when the two varnished surfaces are to be applied to each other, and both of them detached from the frames,

In order to complete the adhesion of the two fabrics into one, they should be passed between plain rollers, moderately pressed together, and afterwards thoroughly dried in a warm room. The fabric thus prepared will be found not at all liable to part again, to be very flexible, and quite impervious to water or air, and may be made up into light outer garments, or applied in any other way.

To JOHN RANKIN, of New Bond street, Middlesex, for an Alarum in case of Robbery of Valuable Property, from Coaches and other Carriages.—1st Nov. 1823.

The principle of this invention consists in affixing, withinside of the strong box, or seat of a coach or other carriage, destined for the carrying of bankers' parcels, or other small things of great value, an alarum-bell and a notice-latch so contrived, that on the opening of the lid of the box or seat, whether by means of a false key, or by forcing open the same, the bell shall be rung, and give an alarm.

The bell to be used, is such an one as is used for a table-clock, and is to be fast screwed by its crown to a square metal plate, affixed to the side, or end, of the strong box, near to the lock thereof: to which plate is also to be affixed a strong curved spring, provided with a lump of metal, to act as a hammer on the edge of the bell; and the end of which spring must project about an inch beyond the edge of the bell, and there be bevelled on the under side, like to a spring-latch.

Over the bell and spring, a metal casing is to be fixed, provided with a mortice, for letting out the bevelled end of the spring, and

and allowing of the same standing, when quiescent, with the hammer about one-fourth of an inch distant from the bell: such mortice being sufficiently long and wide, to allow of the hammer freely striking the bell, after being drawn from it a sufficient distance for giving the necessary impetus to the hammer, by means of the notice-latch presently to be described.

The casing of the bell is to be left open, for letting out the sound at that end or side, the least accessible to any means of stopping the sound of the bell, after the box-lid has been opened.

The notice-latch is of a construction nearly similar to the spring-latches which are placed on closet and cupboard doors, except that it has no handle, passing through the lid of the box; withinside of which lid it is to be affixed, in such a position, that, on shutting down the lid, the bevel of the latch may press against, and pass down below, the end of the hammer-spring, and on the return of the springs to quiescence, may rest just below it, ready afterwards, on the slightest rising of the lid, to draw up with it the end of the hammer-spring, and on passing off its bevel, thereby give the impetus for striking the bell, and giving the alarm required.

[To us, this appears a hasty and ill-matured contrivance; because, on the lid having been quickly opened, and the bell having received a single stroke from the hammer, the thief has only to place a finger on the end of the projecting spring, and thereby press the hammer against the bell, and hold it there for an instant, to effectually prevent further sound from the bell. A competent artist, such as is now to be found in the counting-house or workshop, of a score or two of the *mechanicians* in town, would find no difficulty in constructing a spring-alarum, inside of a strong-box, near to, and so securely connected with the hinges of its lid, that the same could not be raised without setting-off the alarum, which should continue to ring for several minutes, without the possibility of a thief stopping it.]

[No Patents expire in January, 1825.]

A LIST OF PATENTS FOR NEW INVENTIONS, granted in October 1824.

October 7.—For casting steel, in an improved method: to FRANCIS H. W. NEEDHAM, of David-street, Middlesex.—Six months allowed for enrolling specification.

7.—For improvements in constructing steam-engines: to WALTER FOREMAN, of Bath, Somerset.—Six months.

7.—For improvements in making spelter, or zinc: the invention imported by, and the patent to, FREDERICK BENECKE, of Deptford, Kent, and DANIEL T. and JAMES H. SHEARS, of Fleetmarket, London.—Six months.

7.—For an economical method of generating steam, for engines or other purposes: to PIERRE ALEGRE, of Colet-place, Middlesex.—Two months.

7.—For an improved flue or chimney, for furnaces, or other purposes: to HUMPHRY JEFFREYS, of Park-street, Bristol, Gloucestershire.—Two months.

7.—For improved metal casks or barrels, for packing goods: to ROBERT DICKENSON, of Park-street, Southwark, Surrey.—Six months.

7.—For improved fire-escapes, applicable to other purposes: to FRANCIS RICHMAN, of Great Pulteney-street, Middlesex.—Six months.

7.—For improved machinery for making velvets, and other cut goods: the invention imported by, and the patent to, STEPHEN WILSON, of Streatham, Surrey.—Four months.

7.—For an improved process of vinegar-making: to JOHN HAM, of West Coker, Somerset.—Four months.

7.—For improved machinery for printing calicoes, and other fabrics: to MATTHEW BUSH, of West-ham, Essex.—Six months.

7.—For transverse spring slides for trumpets, trombones, French-horns, &c.: to JOHN SHAW, of Milltown, Derbyshire.—Two months.

7.—For improved horse-shoes, applicable to other cattle: to JOHN T. HOBSON, of William-street, Lambeth, Surrey.—Six months.

14.—For improved machinery for drawing, roving and spinning of flax, wool, or other fibrous substances: to PHILIP CHELL, of Earle's-court, Middlesex.—Six months.

14.—For improved machinery for cleaning, carding, drawing, roving and spinning of cotton: to JOHN G. BODNIER, of Oxford-street, in Manchester, Lancashire.—Six months.

14.—For improvements in wheeled carriages: to JAMES GUNN, of Hart-street, Middlesex.—Six months.

14.—For improved water-proof cloth and hats, and other apparel: to WILLIAM P. WEIRE, of Tooley street, Surrey.—Six months.

14.—For improved water-closets: to HENRY MARRIOTT, of Fleet-street, London.—Two months.

14.—For improvements in power-looms for various goods: to JAMES FETLOW, of Manchester, Lancashire.—Six months.

14.—For continually changing the water in steam boilers, for preventing the deposition of salt, &c., in long steam-vessel voyages: to HENRY MAUDSLAY and JOSHUA FIELD, of Lambeth, Surrey.—Six months.

21.—For improved artificial stone: to JOSEPH APSDEN, of Leeds, Yorkshire.—Two months.

21.—For improved fire-extinguishing machinery: to GEORGE DODD, of St. Anne's-street, Middlesex.—Six months.

21.—For a machine to give notices, proclamations and advertisements, &c. to the public, instead of bill-sticking: to GEORGE S. HARRIS, of Caroline-place, Middlesex.—Two months.

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LITERATURE, DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN,
OF DECEMBER, 1824.

WITH A CRITICAL PROËMIUM.

Authors or Publishers, desirous of seeing an early Notice of their Works, are requested to transmit Copies before the 18th of the Month.

THOUGH the season be not yet arrived when the press should be expected to be fruitful of splendid and voluminous works, on the one hand, or those of intellectual luxury and high imagination, on the other, we have been able to select from those of humbler proportions and pretensions, some two or three which appeared not totally unworthy of the attention of our readers—if not for their *bulk*, for the magnitude of the questions with which, by inference at least, they are connected. To the friends of humanity and of those principles by which alone the interests of humanity can be protected or advanced, every thing, that relates to the condition of our fellow-beings in Eastern or in Western India, will be regarded as important: and as such we have given a degree of consideration to one little volume, and to one small pamphlet, which works of much greater extent could otherwise hardly expect in our contracted space: while with respect to those, that refer, one of them to the salmon fisheries, and the other the state of the manufacturing population (for they are both of them questions of right and life), we have only to lament that we could not extend an equal degree of attention. To another article more connected with the intellectual accomplishments of the few, than the claims and necessities of the many, our predilections would, nevertheless, have led us into much more ample examination than we have indulged in: for though our solicitude is primarily for the broad and solid base of the social edifice, we are not indifferent to the tasteful embellishments of the Corinthian capital. But a due examination of the ingenious work of Mr. Roe would have demanded a sheet, instead of a column, of our miscellany; and we have been obliged to confine ourselves to so sketchy and partial a review of his principles, as, we are perfectly aware, can neither do justice to his views of the subject, nor our own.

A Voice from India, in Answer to the Reformers of England. Dedicated by permission, to the Right Hon. President of the Board of Control. By John B. Seely, Captain in the Bombay Native Infantry, &c. &c.—The author of the “Wonders of Elora” has furnished us with another work, worthy of a much more extended consideration than we have space to give to it. There is much to be examined in it, much to be controverted, and much more to be learned, than it appears to have been the intention of the author to teach. “O that mine enemy would write a book!” is a wish, perhaps, which many a reviewer may

have breathed from personal motives—many a philanthropist might breathe from more generous considerations. We have more pleasure, we confess, or at least more intellectual profit, in perusing the arguments of the opponents, than of the advocates, of our principles; and it is but justice to say, that the sentiments manifested in the “Voice from India,” come to us, in some respects, in the best form they are capable of—in the frank and temperate language of a gentleman, and with the manifestations, at once, of talent and information. Yet are the conclusions we should draw from his premises, in many respects, directly the reverse of those he would wish us to infer. What would he say to us, if upon the hypothesis, that his own mode of reasoning, as far as it goes, is valid, we should undertake to demonstrate from his own data, that either our possessions in India must be abandoned,* or we ourselves must shortly cease to be a free nation. But this is a field too large for us to enter upon, and we must confine ourselves to a single point. The main object of Captain Seely is to substantiate the proposition, that the freedom of the press ought not to be, and must not be permitted to exist in the East-Indies, because the government of India is, and must, of necessity, be, arbitrary; and a despotic government and a free press cannot exist together. Now to a part, at least, of the major proposition we cannot object. The English government of the East-Indies *IS* indisputably an arbitrary government—a government by the sword—a government of the victor few over the vanquished (or the cajoled and defrauded†) many; and the minor proposition, that despotism and a free press cannot continue to be co-existent, is equally indisputable. If the present system of government is to be sustained in India, we know not, therefore, how we are to deny the *sequitur* that a free press must never there be tolerated. Nay, we will even go a step further, and say, that if we could agree

* “Perish Commerce! but let the Constitution live!” exclaimed the mad-brained metaphysician—the high-court anarchist—the sophistical demagogue, Wyndham—himself at once the most subtle, and the most headlong enemy, to the constitution, of his day. “Perish Commerce! but let the Constitution live!” “Perish our East-India dominion;” if the dilemma were admitted, we would exclaim, “but let British freedom live!”

“The lily peace outshines the silver store,
And life is dearer than the golden ore.”

† In all cases of subjugation, by such disproportioned numbers, it requires neither argument nor detail to prove that intrigue and treachery must have born a larger share than valour.

agree with Capt. S. in another of his conclusions (into which, however, he appears, to us, to have sprung, rather, from the assumed grounds of a favourite hypothesis, than to have climbed by the gradations of a substantial logic), namely, that the consequences of such an overthrow of the existing system of government in India, as he supposes a free press must inevitably produce, would be the ultimate restoration of Mohamedan ascendancy and tyranny, with all its blood-thirsty and intolerant barbarities, we should be ready to grant him all that he desires, and say, as the less hideous alternative, "Perish the press of India, and let humanity (even in its present ignorance) live!" for human happiness (the happiness of all that is human!) is, after all, the end; and even the press (the precursor and the protector of liberty) is but the mean of a mean, through which that end is sought. But it should seem that, according to Capt. S., the sacrifice of the press alone will not suffice for that security of our Indian Government so "devoutly to be wished." Christianity must be sacrificed also. See p. 63-4.

"It is with poignant regret that I am compelled, by my love of truth, to say that the same observation" (that a free press in India would be the cause of civil war, revolution, and our final expulsion from the continent of Asia) "strictly applies to the establishment of the Christian faith in India."

The author has, indeed, cautiously so inwoven this sentence with his apprehensions "of the country again reverting to the hands of the Mussulmans," that, at first blush, it appears to have prospective reference to their intolerance alone. But the context will shew that the argument is general, not particular, and is meant to convey, to the initiate ear, the dangers of Christian conversion. For in the very next paragraph—

"Break down (says he) the great barrier of *caste* among the people of India, (that radical principle, be it remembered, of *Brahmin superstition*, which *Christian conversion*, most assuredly, would break down!) and give the people political knowledge, and the freedom of using it, and I would not give a shilling in the pound for all the India stock, home or foreign!"

What will the Missionary and Bible Societies—the advocates for the diffusion of that breaker-down of castes—Christian knowledge, say to this? A fig, they perhaps might say, for your India stock, your pagodas, and your rupees: our object is the salvation of souls, and the melioration of the state of man. But, then, says Capt. S., when knowledge and Christianity have overthrown all the protecting blessings of our "arbitrary government of India;" then the country inevitably reverts again "to the hands of the Mussulmans, and their former blood-thirsty and barba-

rous rule." They will "never tolerate in their Hindoo subjects the freedom of discussion and writing;" they will "never permit them to profess a new religion which they hold in profound contempt, and treat with ineffable abhorrence," &c., "so that the Hindoo, in losing his old masters, would have reason to curse the day that he became enlightened," &c. As if the same lights that converted and informed the 93 million Hindoo inhabitants of British India would not reach the eyes of 7 million Mohamedans also; or the Christianized and politically-informed population, who had broken to pieces the well compacted power of European sovereignty, and driven us out of India, would not, by the very energies of science and intellect, thus brought into organized action, have some chance, at least, of making an effective stand against those former Mohamedan masters, from whose blood-thirsty and barbarous rule our *disinterested humanity* had, heretofore, so benignantly redeemed them. We suspect, however, that Capt. S. may very reasonably put to rest all his apprehensions, political and humane, upon this part of the subject. We do not believe that there is much reason either to fear or to hope, that either Christian missionaries, or a free press, will, in our time, at least, or that of our children, make any very alarming progress in breaking down that great barrier of castes, which Hindoo superstition has erected, alike, against the doctrines of the rights of man and of the gospel. His solicitude and his arguments against both may, therefore, with good reason, and with equal *policy*, be exclusively directed to the preservation of the rupees, pagodas, and "India Stock, home and foreign," which the wisdom of the present arbitrary government of India so benignantly secures to a small portion of that 45,000 Europeans, by whom the 100,000,000 of natives are at this time, overawed and governed. So far as they are confined to this object, we are by no means confident that either his premises can be disputed or his conclusions successfully resisted. With the present system of government in India, we are much disposed to admit, that a free press is utterly incompatible. Whether the elements exist there for a better and more liberal system we are not at present called upon to discuss; but we may venture to prophesy, that, under the auspices of our present *home system*, a much better will not be adopted. At the same time, we make our acknowledgments for the interesting information, of a more general description, which may be gleaned from this well-written little volume: thinly scattered, it is true, and incidentally interspersed, with an attention obviously to the selection of such alone as may serve the purposes of the argument. But though his pages, in as much as historical considerations are concerned, fall in some degree under the censure of one of the

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the author's own mottoes, "Give me a few facts; general remarks are of little use," yet may they be read with some profit, even by those who either do not coincide with him in the opinions he upholds, or feel but little interest in the particular question to which his arguments refer.

The Principles of Rhythm both in Speech and Music; especially as exhibited in the Mechanism of English Verse. By the Rev. RICHARD ROE, A. B. There is much, in this work, to challenge the attention of the musician, the poet, and the elocutionist; and of all, indeed, who would wish to improve the grace and harmony of their language, in composition, speech, or song. The ear, as the author very justly observes, "requires cultivation, for time as well as for tune; and hence, if poets were good timists, they would be greater masters of all the capabilities of measured language. If, on the other hand, vocal composers were well acquainted with the properties of syllables, and with all the various species of verse, they would be better qualified to set, or adapt, words to music. In proof of this opinion, I need only appeal to the instances of Milton and Jackson. What music in the verses of the former! what expression in the music of the latter! It may be asked, if Shakspeare was a practical musician,* or Handel a mechanical versifier. Perhaps, even they might have been guiners, if they were [had been]. We know, however, that the specified beauties of the two former sprung from their cultivation of both arts: beauties, which, it is probable, would otherwise have never existed, and which accordingly hold forth encouragement to follow their example."

In the treatment of his subject, Mr. Roe has evinced much ingenuity, and a considerable knowledge of the principles of music; and nothing assuredly can be more correct, than the postulate assumed through the whole of his treatise, that in the rhythm of sounds, under whatever modifications, of instrumental music, song, or speech, there is, and can be, but one common principle, which must dictate and regulate all the varieties of their proportions. At the same time, while we call not into question the practical discrimination of Mr. Roe's ear, even to the full extent of nicety he lays claim to, we cannot but acknowledge, that in some instances, and those not a few, the

notation he has used would indicate, in him, a habit of giving very different quantities, in the pronunciation of certain syllables, from those which we should regard as inherent to them. These are differences of application, however, which do not interfere with his general principle. There are other points upon which we could wish to be more explicit. But this is not a work to be criticized in a paragraph, or a page. It is the result of much labour and reflection, and worthy of a deliberate and ample analysis. We should observe, however, that the principal defects of Mr. R's system, like that of Joshua Steele, or rather of their developments of the system, (for, in the main, they are both of them right), has arisen from resting their theory and its results on the basis of musical science alone; instead of extending their researches to those anatomical and physiological principles, from which the laws of musical proportion are of necessity derived; and with which all the phenomena of genuine harmony, organic or instrumental, from the very nature of our perceptions, must inevitably conform. Mr. R. indeed, from the want of this extended consideration, has deviated in some respects, from correct and efficient notation, further than his predecessor. Mr. Steele's distinction of *heavy* (Δ) and *light* ($\cdot\cdot$), the *Thesis* and *Arsis* of the Greek grammarians, falls in, as correctly, with the alternate action and reaction of the primary organ of vocal impulse, as if it had been anatomically derived; and, although the terms *pulsation* and *remission* would have answered the purpose quite as well,—the latter distinction referring to organic causes, the former to the sensible effects, yet, considering how important it is that persons, treating of the same science, should make use of the same terms, as far as they are found consistent with intelligible discrimination, we cannot but lament that Mr. R. did not, in this instance, adopt them; since, by the more than necessary refinement in the discrimination of the degrees and species of pulsations, which he has substituted in their place, he has inevitably perplexed what before was simple and efficient; and betrayed himself into some inconsistencies: so much so indeed, as to render some of his illustrations apparently incongruous with his general theory. According to him the *bar*, or cadence, and the *foot*, are occasionally to be ascertained by a directly opposite mode of division or admeasurement in the mind: the former commencing, always, with the stronger pulse, (the heavy poise) but the latter, either with the stronger or weaker, according to accident in the arrangement of the line or sentence. While according to the system of Joshua Steele, and of nature, the bar, the cadence, and the foot are always in the strictest unison; the first being indicative of the space or time, the second of the alternation

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* That Shakspeare had a soul atuned to music, may be confidently inferred from the many beautiful allusions to it scattered through his works: that he had either some knowledge of its principles, or an intuitive perception of the beauty of its proportions, is equally obvious, from the exquisite and un-technical structure, and the beautiful modulation of his verses, in all his more highly poetical passages. That Handel (though his divine music loses sometimes a part of its charm, by the solecism of adapting it to the words of prose) had a fine perception of poetic rhythmus, may be fairly argued by the unrivalled felicity with which he has accommodated the rhythm of his music to the rhythm of Milton's music-breathing lines.—Edit.

of pulsative and remiss sound, produced by the action and re-action of the primary organ, and the last of the portion of syllabic utterance, or composition, accompanying the cadential intonation. Notwithstanding, however, these and some other defects in the system of Mr. R., and some other blemishes, which it would lead us into too much length to specify, we scruple not to pronounce the "Principles of Rythm" a valuable addition to our very scanty stock of judicious elucidation of the science of rhythmical utterance:—a science to the cultivation of which the language of Greece owed so large a portion of its inspiring harmony; and the neglect of which, among ourselves, is one of the principal causes of that frequent harshness of utterance, and cacophony of structure, so unjustly regarded as necessarily inherent to our mother tongue.

Narrative of the Condition of the Manufacturing Population, and the Proceedings of Government, which led to the State Trials in Scotland. By Alex. B. Richmond. Miller, London.

Although the manufacturing districts are, now, in a state of great activity, and the population in the enjoyment of comparative happiness, yet the small volume before us contains such a mass of evidence respecting the events that succeeded to the termination of the late war, and the measures resorted to, by the Government, at that period, to quell the discontent of a wretched and starving population, as to render the work entitled to the most attentive perusal, both of the magistracy and the manufacturing class. The author (who appears to have been a respectable manufacturer) having been inculpated in the state prosecutions, from which he managed to escape by a temporary self-banishment, finds it necessary, for the justification of his own character, to publish the narrative of the causes which led to the discontents, and the share which he took in managing the correspondence between the miserable weavers and their employers in the Glasgow cotton trade. There appears an air of veracity about all his statements; and the greater part are verified by other accounts published at that period. After mentioning the ineffectual conferences between the masters and workmen, with regard to the advance of prices, and the meetings of large numbers of the latter, for the purpose of petitioning the Legislature for some redress of their miseries, he says, "The opposition of the magistrates had a direct tendency to stimulate them to more severe measures. A field was procured in the vicinity of Glasgow, on the 29th Oct. 1816, which was attended by more than 40,000 persons. The conduct of the magistrates was there freely animadverted upon, and the idea conveyed by such an assemblage operated on the imaginations of the people like a shock of electricity, inducing them to believe there was no limit to their power and

importance.... Had the magistrates possessed a little more knowledge of human nature, and been aware of the consequences, which invariably follow the line of conduct they adopted; *had they expressed a little more sympathy and commiseration for the sufferings of a starving people*, and allowed places of meeting, indoors, to discuss their differences with their employers, it would have confined the proceedings to a different class, and no ill result would have happened. But as the magistrates acted in a similar manner in many other parts of the country, (Manchester to wit!) the people fell into the hands of a set of illiterate and unprincipled demagogues, and were precipitated into measures that served as a pretext for abridging our general liberties. In the neighbourhood of Glasgow, the want of employment, and the unprincipled speculation of the masters, on the price of labour, reduced the labourers to the lowest misery and famine. Reckless, hopeless and desperate, they considered no change, not anarchy itself, could render their condition more wretched." The author gives a very impartial sketch of the conduct of all the official characters with whom he held correspondence and had personal interviews at that period,—as delegate on behalf of the unfortunate operative weavers; which account is not very creditable to the integrity of some of the parties, but which our limits will not allow us to extract. He represents the venality of the periodical press, also, as contributing, in no slight degree, to augment the discontents of the starving multitude, by inflaming their passions, instead of soothing their miseries. He also traces the progress of the miscreants, who were employed (like wolves in sheep's clothing) to betray the multitude into overt acts of outrage, and then turn round and become informers; for the purpose of having a pretence for passing the severe acts of parliament which, as is well known, followed these discontents in Scotland and the north of England. But as the whole narrative is well-written and worthy of perusal, as it affects the administration of public affairs between 1816 and 1820, independent of its object in vindicating the conduct of the author, in these transactions, we strongly recommend it to the notice of the politician and the philanthropist.

A View of the Salmon and Channel Fisheries, by T. Cornish, Esq., thin 8vo.—Mr. Cornish is justly entitled to the thanks of the public for his very laudable and spirited efforts in exposing the nefarious practice of destroying salmon, immediately before and after casting their spawn. He clearly and indisputably shews the urgent necessity for the interference of the Legislature, to enforce and make laws for the proper protection of this valuable fish; and proves, *to conviction*, the cause of the lamentable fact, that salmon, instead of being one of the most plentiful, and consequently the cheapest, foods, has

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has become one of the scarcest and most expensive luxuries. This book ought to be read with interest by all classes. It is high time the subject should be properly taken into consideration; and the spontaneous produce of the waters be so far protected, as to yield in due portion their auxiliary assistance to the more toil-wrought fruits of the earth, in sustaining the life and comfort of an increasing and necessitous population.

Review of the Quarterly Review; or an exposure of the erroneous opinions, promulgated in that work, on the subject of Colonial Slavery: being the substance of a series of letters which appeared in the "New Times" of Sept. and Oct. 1824. It may be regarded as among the extraordinary phenomena of political literature, that in this interesting controversy between the principles of natural liberty and humanity, on the one side, and the interests of tyranny and rapacious barbarism, on the other, the cause of oppression should find its advocate, if not in the person, at least in the co-association of the author of "Wat Tyler," while what may be called the jacobin side of the question should have for its organ, the ultra-monarchical press of Dr. Stodart and the "New Times." But with such inconsistencies we are, in these days, familiar; there are throngs of writers and bawlers, we are sorry to say, who only bark for liberty, till corruption will stop their mouths with a sufficient sop; and there are conspicuous examples of those who can sympathize with every suffering but that which is at home; whose humanity acts alone with a centrifugal force, and with an intensity which increases in a sort of geometrical ratio with the distance of its object; who with the same breath in fact, can argue for the abolition of slavery in the West-Indies, and its progressive establishment in Britain. We, for our part, would have it abolished every where, and established no where: but if we cannot meet with those who will co-operate upon the principle, in every direction, we will receive with thanks and gratitude even the partial assistance which tends to any one of the points, from whatever direction it may proceed; and we recommend accordingly to the review-reading public in general, this temperate and gentlemanly castigation, which the correspondent of the *New Times* has given to the apostates and coalescents of the *Quarterly Review*. As we have not space even for the most brief analysis of the pamphlet before us (momentously interesting as we regard the subject), two short extracts must suffice as indications of the merits of the controversy:

"With a very imposing gravity, the reviewer next tells us, that 'those who advance facts, of the correctness of which they are not absolutely certain, allow themselves a latitude very nearly approaching to criminality.' This is, without doubt, a very just

remark. He adds, however, 'We are some times afraid that there are persons, engaged in polemical controversy upon this subject, so hurried on by their detestation of slavery, so morbidly anxious for its extinction, that they are disposed to adopt the most dangerous of all human principles of action, that the end may occasionally sanctify the employment of means which, in themselves, and abstractedly taken, cannot be justified.' Has the reviewer no fear, then, with respect to those who take the opposite side in this controversy? Are there no criminal misrepresentations to be apprehended on the part of those who love, as well as on the part of those who detest, slavery? no dishonourable means to be suspected among the partizans of the former, for attaining an end which they think important? And is it no indication of the partiality of the reviewer, that he should deem it necessary to preach exclusively to the abolitionists, as if they alone were capable of resorting to base and unworthy arts to promote their objects."

Unfortunately for the *Quarterly Reviewer*, he stands convicted and condemned in all the penalties of his own sentence:

"The reviewer, who, it is plain, never visited the West-Indies himself, instead of citing authentic documents, or adducing unimpeachable testimony in proof of his statements, supports them with extracts from anonymous letters, and with loose and unauthenticated details, obviously taken from the mouths of West-Indian planters, anxious to vindicate themselves in the eyes of the public."

Nor is this the worst, that is not only charged, but apparently proved against this conscientious apologist of stripes and bonds: this advocate for the sacred property of a rapacious few in the blood and bones of his fellow men.

The Good Nurse, or Hints on the management of the Sick and Lying-in Chamber, and the Nursery.—The above title shews the nature of this work, but we would have a bill of indictment preferred against common sense, for being found in such company, as quackery, absurdity, and ignorance: and we assure our readers, that they are all four closely connected in this book, which of course, is likely to do so much the more mischief.

The Housekeeper's Ledger, by Dr. Kitchenner.—With all due reverence and precision of ceremony, we introduce Dr. Kitchenner (M.D.) to our philosophical and scientific readers. It is well known that our ancestors (in gratitude to the capabilities nature had endowed them withal) took their names from their several occupations: thus, we have Tailors, Smiths, Masons, Bakers, Butchers, &c. &c. in abundance. This was a courteous compliment to Nature for her gifts; but who would have thought of Mrs. Nature's condescending to return the compliment, and of her endowing her children with

attributes accommodated to their destined names? A mixture of philosophy and sauce-making, of music and cookery, a medley of medicine and domestic economy; a decoction of original poetry and oculism: a professor, at once, of butter-melting and of singing! Start not, reader—all this in one book—in *one* man! Here's a contributor to the gratification of the senses! And why not? He is cook by name, and cook by nature. These are dispensations: the rest are mere mortal acquirements; and a precious salmagundi they may be supposed to make—equal to any that his "Domestic Oracle" could order to the table. But, notwithstanding all his eccentricities, Dr. Kitchener is really a useful member of society, and this last little work will be received, as an economizing obligation, by the thrifty housewife.

Rameses, an Egyptian Tale, 3 vols. 8vo.—This work possesses considerable merit and utility; and though we cannot recommend the story as very amusing, or the style as among the best specimens of writing, yet the historical notes which occupy a large portion of these volumes, are replete with valuable and interesting information. The author represents Egypt as partaking of all the fertilization and abundance of its worshipped god and great benefactor, the majestic Nile, and the people as possessing an extent of wisdom and learning, and perfection in the arts and sciences, which makes the boasted knowledge and experience of this enlightened age appear almost insignificant. He adduces sufficient proof, that the Grecians not only copied the Egyptians in many of their works of art, but in some were even inferior. See the description of "the Labyrinth beyond the Lake Maris, which is composed of twelve courts, all of which are covered; six entrances to the south, and six to the north; one wall encloses the whole; there are fifteen hundred apartments above the surface of the ground, and as many beneath,—in all three thousand. Wonderful as this labyrinth is, the Lake Maris, near which it stands, is more extraordinary still."—HERODOTUS, EUTERPE.

"To those who would dispute the existence of Egyptian knowledge and science, an examination (says the Univer. Hist. i. 527) of the details of these wonders, by an eye-witness, would not be useless. The Lake Maris, after the drying up of the canals, and the vast accumulation of its sands, has still a circumference of a hundred and fifty miles," &c.

The obstinate attachment of this singular, but otherwise intelligent people, to the worship of animals, is also described. India, Chaldea, and all other Eastern kingdoms, by degrees identified their mythology with Sabeism and Demonolatry, although lingering traces of animal and serpent worship still exist in India, as well as throughout South America; but Egypt ever was

the devoted slave of animal symbolization, until the second century of the Christian era, which is accounted for from their exclusive devotion to the study of natural philosophy.

From the notes alone, were it consistent with the plan of our miscellany, we might enrich whole pages with selections of valuable and interesting information.

Lasting Impressions, a Novel in 3 vols., by Mrs. Joanna Carey, is a more commonplace production than we should have expected from the very respectable name of the publisher. The author, indeed, in her advertisement, gave us reason to hope we should have a fair field for commendation, by professing to delineate human character as it is, without either poetical romance, or ostentatious sentimentality.

But, though this is just what we could wish for in a novel, yet in the execution of a work of this kind, we do not expect a prosing loquacity of style, flowery without being picturesque or imaginative, and sentimental without being pathetic; or an assemblage of characters and events in which there is little that bears the stamp of originality, or that impresses the imagination. It may have its day among the *ephemera* of the circulating library; but we can promise it no more extended vitality.

Herwald De Wake is a romance, in many degrees, above the ordinary standard. The story is dated at the end of the 11th century, and the events are supposed to have taken place in England and Constantinople. Though the story is imaginative, many of the characters and incidents have reference to actual events and personages, which considerably augments the interest. The cleverest part of the work is that which is filled with the description of the luxury and profligacy of Andronicus Comnenus. It has all the passionate eloquence, and at the same time all the wild extravagance, of Maturin. The most faulty part is the plot, in which the multitude and variety of incidents overpower and perplex the comprehension. There is, however, in the wildness of the imagination, a great deal of beauty: and when we are most disposed to quarrel with the excursions of the writer, we are most obliged to admit the power of his genius.

Scenes and Thoughts, 8vo.—Although we find fault with the writing of this volume, being verbose and flowery; yet there is much to compensate for this defect. The "Scenes" are delineated with natural truth and precision; particularly those denominated "Home," the "Country Sunday," and the "Market-day." The first of these is certainly as interesting a picture as could well be drawn; the more especially as there are few of us who have not known the delight of meeting, after a long absence, a much-loved relation. The style is in imitation of Miss Mitford's, but wants her native simplicity; and we strongly suspect

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pect that several of the scenes (though now assuming a new form) have graced the pages of some periodical publication.

Letters on the Character and Poetical Genius of Lord Byron. By Sir Egerton Brydges, Bart., &c. &c. &c. cr. 8vo.—

The first and second of these letters damped considerably the expectations which the name in the title page, in combination with the subject, had conspired to raise. Some glaring instances of incongruous metaphor, and figurative obscurity, which had very little of the appearance of resulting from the careless familiarity of epistolary composition, together with a sort of desultory indulgence in some thing very like common place, led us to apprehend that we were about to be entertained with a diffuse sort of gentlemanly conversation on a critical subject, such as might do very well over our wine, when we could have, every now and then, our own say in return; but which might very ill repay our continued attention, without either wine or alternate chit-chat to enliven us, through a soliloquy of 457 pages. Had we strained, as far as we are afraid it has sometimes been strained by succeeding critics, the metaphorical maxim of Dr. Johnson about the leg of mutton, we should probably, therefore, without tasting another mouthful, have condemned the whole joint. But, happily, we recollected another critical metaphor, somewhat older, and perhaps quite as profound as that of our surly Aristarchus, "One with a flash begins and ends in smoke, another out of smoke brings glorious fire;" and we accordingly proceeded. The result has been the confirmation (for no one who has not ceased to be familiar with the wholesome banquet of plain roast and boiled, can call it a discovery) that every part of a leg of mutton has not necessarily the same flavour. The ensuing Letters of Sir Egerton Brydges, though by no means free from the blemishes alluded to, display no ordinary portion of moral and critical discrimination and good taste, and are, in fact, entitled to more attention than at present we have space to give them; and till we can assign to them the place they seem to be entitled to in our critic-criticizing pages, we recommend the volume to the perusal of those who have either extravagantly overrated, or more extravagantly deprecated the writings—the poetry of Lord Byron: that is to say, nineteenth, at least, of all the readers, and talkers about reading, by whom his name is mentioned.

[For notices of works in hand, and a correct and complete list of new books published in December, see *Literary Varieties*].

FOREIGN LITERATURE.

FRANCE.

THE French press has been fruitful in biographies; some of them evidently written for the purposes of ambition and

party, others, professedly at least, with more liberal and impartial views. The prospectus of the *Biographie Barthélemy*, in 10 vols. 8vo., of which 50,000 are said to have been distributed, has recorded circumstances respecting book-makers and book-speculators, calculated to expose the kind of partnership by which they have conspired to enrich themselves, at the expense of truth and justice. It professes to be an *édition complétée sur celle de la Belgique, augmentée de 2,000 Articles*; and the Editors profess themselves advocates for national glory, independence, constitutional liberty, and truth: to be neither Republicans, Napoleonists, Orleanists, nor Ultras; and they boast of the large sums of money that have been rejected by them, in the disdain of being made instruments of falsification and deception. Of *Madame de Staël*, they speak as having written for and against both despotism and liberty, democracy and aristocracy. But upon her having given utterance to the maxim, that "the legitimacy of the people is more ancient still than that of kings," they exclaim, that "such a sentence is sufficient to provoke and excuse all kinds of revolutions!" And in her *Histoire des Dix Ans d'Exile*, they find proofs, from the beginning to the end, that she "was of the Reformed Religion." They affirm, that "if Napoleon had condescended to encourage the intriguing pride of this illustrious Genevese, she would have negotiated for her return to France, with a panegyric in her hand, full of flattery and imperial adulation." Of *Napoleon*, who, in the Editor's opinion, was "the greatest captain of modern times," and "the greatest despot that ever existed," and "who reigned fourteen years over France, and over the French Revolution;" "who beheld emperors and kings humble themselves before him;" "whose alliance was solicited by all the monarchs, from the Emperor of Russia to the Duke of Baden; whom all the potentates of Europe flattered, admired, and saluted with the epithet of the *great*, and with the name of brother," &c.—of this "giant of revolution," they announce that they will record whatever he has done, whether it be great, handsome, prodigious, or useful; that they will mention his faults, his crimes, his ambition, his despotism—that despotism which tended to complete his ruin. We can only add two short extracts from the prefatory announcement, as specimens of the spirit of the work:

"According to our mode of thinking, a priest, a bishop, who has taken the oath to all systems, and served all governments engendered by the revolution; who has not wisdom enough to retire in due time from public affairs, and to manage himself so as to secure a last asylum in the national esteem; a bishop, who, in his old age, has a comedy performed in his castle, being unable to play it in the theatre of the world; an ex-priest, who finishes his days under proscription:

proscription: such a priest, in our mind, is not a statesman, but an invalid and a dignitary of the revolution."—See *Talleyrand*.

"When one can say with reason, and with impunity, that Louis XIV. was a despot, Louis XV. debauched, Louis XVI. weak from too much gentleness, it may be permitted to talk of *Eugene Beauharnois*, created Duke of Leutchemberg; of General *Bernadotte*, created King of Sweden; of *Lucien Bonaparté*, created Prince of Cassino, &c., as history will record."

La Biographie des Hommes vivans, des frères Michaud.—This biography is written, generally, in the spirit of absolute power. The editors have suffered themselves to be led into decisions dictated by party spirit; but the work is impartial when it treats of the arts and sciences. These biographers make every one guilty that was engaged in the French Revolution. It is to be regretted that they have sometimes drawn their information from suspicious sources, and have recorded in their volumes statements notoriously incorrect.

La Biographie Nouvelle des Contemporains.—This work appears to be directed by a spirit diametrically opposite to that of the preceding; one would think, after reading it, that there was not to be found in the French Revolution a single criminal. Considerable errors have been committed in some of the French articles, and in the very small number of Spanish in these volumes. The editors appear to be ignorant of the state of Spain. They lavish panegyric on those men who have shewn themselves to be double traitors to royalty and to liberty. This same biography says that the generals of the war of Spanish independence (1808-1813) were only chiefs of a party, whose bands delivered themselves to royalty.

The *Dictionnaire Biographique et Historique*, &c. says of Dumourier, vol. 1. p. 472: "being unable to occupy the world longer with his exploits, he takes up his pen, and writes a history of his life, a work remarkable for the excessive vanity which prevails in it—a true political *Proteus*. There is no faction for which he has not, at one time or another, declared himself a partizan."

Histoire du Juré, par M. Aignan, Membre de L'Institut, is a work of higher value to the student, the philosopher, and the lover of freedom. The author endeavours to demonstrate, that the admirable institution of juries is natural and inherent to the social state of mankind; and the Jewish, Greek, Roman, German, English, and French histories, have furnished materials for presenting it under all its shapes and metamorphoses. He takes a rapid view of the tribunals of the ancients; and descending to the pleadings of the German courts of law, describes the effects of the feudal power on the administration of justice. He then presents the jury as mo-

delled in England, follows it to America, and thinks he recognises it in France, in spite of the alterations and mutations to which it has there been subjugated. The style is apt and simple, learned and precise.

[We should not quit this article without reminding our readers that there is an ingenious, learned, and valuable, though neglected work upon the same subject—a thin 4to. PETTINGALE on Juries, which traces the institution (though not, of course, exactly in its modern shape) to Greece and Rome; and which, in Athenian example, in particular, (as the Saxon antiquary might more demonstratively in the practice of our ancestors) illustrates the real nature and meaning of that now mere technical appeal to GOD AND THE COUNTRY, verbally made in our Courts of Judicature.]

Précis de l'Histoire générale de la Compagnie de Jésus, suivi de Monita Secreta, by Arnold Scheffer.—The author of this book, alarmed at the great spread, and even re-establishment of the Jesuits, has brought together the history of the origin and progress of this formidable society, down to its having been publicly denounced in 1773, together with a detail of its state since that time. A translation is given of the *Monita Secreta*, which constitutes the moral and political code of the Jesuits. It is stated in this, that monarchs and sovereigns must be made to understand that the Catholic religion cannot be expected to maintain its ground, without forming an alliance with politics; which must be effected with great secrecy, and by the members of the order becoming connected with the great, to become privy to their most secret councils. It further states, that it is considered important to the society to excite and keep up divisions and jealousies among rulers; but that, where a determination to be reconciled was evident, the reconciliation should be effected through a Jesuit.

Résumé de l'Histoire de Pologne, par Leon Thrisse, dwells not so much on individual characters as on that of the nation collectively, and on the origin, rise, and fall of the Republic. The author is faithful throughout to his motto, *Malo periculosam libertatem quam tutum servitium*.

Traité de Mécanique Céleste, par M. le Marquis de Laplace, tom. 5, l. xij, treats "On the Oscillations of the Fluids covering the Planets." After stating briefly the opinions of other mathematicians on this difficult subject, the author proceeds to state his own on the theory of the tide, which he supports by a great number of experiments made in the harbour of Brest, during sixteen years, to ascertain several important elements, which he considers as affecting the phenomena. He concludes this volume with a chapter on the flux and reflux of the atmosphere, which this celebrated philosopher presumes to depend on the three following causes: 1st. the direct influence of the sun and moon on the atmosphere. 2d. the periodical rise and fall of the ocean, which

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which latter he considers as the moving base of the atmosphere. 3d. the atmosphere's being attracted by the ocean, the figure of which differs periodically. M. Laplace supports his theory, on the variations of the atmosphere, by observations made upon the barometer during eight years.

Dictionnaire des Sciences Médicales. Biographie Médicale, tom. 5. The biographical portion forms a supplement to the dictionary of medical science, already extended to 60 vols. 8vo. The present vols. contain biographical memoirs of Linnæus, Paul Luther, son of the famous reformer and Catherine de Bord, Morgagni, Paracelsus, Priestly, Rabelais, &c.

Planches Anatomiques du Corps Humain, exécutées d'après les Dimensions naturelles, accompagnées d'une texte explicative, par le Docteur Antommarchi, is described in the report of M. Duméril to the *Académie des Sciences*, as "a kind of an anatomical panorama. In some of the plates (of which the price is not thrice that of the mere engravings), although every object is painted according to its natural colour, and in the figures which are not coloured, the style is so conceived, that every vein is correctly and uniformly given, aided by touches and marks agreed on, diversified, and always appropriated to the same organs."

At a public sitting of the *Société Royale de Médecine, Chirurgie et Pharmacie de Toulouse*, 13 Mar. 1814.—M. Cabiran, the president, delivered an oration on the actual condition and progressive advancement of the sciences, which has been published there in 8vo. The proceedings of the society for the year, were enumerated by the secretary, M. Ducasse fils; and the following question for 1825 was declared, "To shew by reasoning and experience, the most favourable position in which the limb can be placed in treating a fracture at the neck of the bone." The following was proposed for 1826: "To determine the effect produced by and upon a man in a state of health and in sickness, and to shew the medical properties of the various preparations of it, both in interior and exterior application." The value of each prize is 300 francs.

SWITZERLAND AND GERMANY.

Discours sur l'Utilité de la Langue Arabe, &c. Dissertation on the Utility of the Arabic Language: delivered on the 16th June 1823, at the meeting for Promotions in the College of Geneva; by Mr. J. Humbert, Professor of Arabic. Geneva.

M. Humbert had already distinguished himself as an oriental scholar, by his *Anthologie Arabe*. In the present discourse, he has united, in succinct but elegant enumeration, all the benefits of the Arabian literature. He represented it as a prolific mine, from which history, from time to time, may draw intelligence, as well as geography, morality, poetry, criticism of the sacred

writings, astronomy, medicine, and all the sciences. In a discourse so rapidly drawn up, it would not be difficult to point out some errors and some omissions, but it is nevertheless highly creditable to the industry and erudition of the author. The following quotation will enable the reader to form a judgment of the manner of the author: "The Arabs, during a period of fifty centuries, have preserved, without alteration, their usages, their manners, their customs, and during this protracted period their language has also remained unvaried; free in the midst of despotic nations, the Bedoween has seen the monarchies of Egypt, of Syria, of Chaldea, pass like shades. The most formidable conquerors have driven their cars to the borders of the desert, but their names have scarcely reached him; he scarcely heard of the incursions of Alexander, or the fall of the Persian throne! And when, in still later years, the Egyptian expedition, conducted a French army to the frontiers of Arabia, it found the inhabitants such as they have been depicted by ancient authors, greedy of plunder, vindictive, cruel, but, at the same time, hospitable, generous, frugal, inured to privations of every kind, never betraying (*lâad*) sworn faith, living with all the members of their tribe in brotherly concord. At this day, as in the day of Abraham, every father of a family renders justice to his kin; white hairs are venerated; deliberations are made by the aged, so that the Arabic word Sheikh signifies both *lord* and *old man*."

Médecine Pratique de J. V. Hildebrand, Professeur de Médecine Clinique à l'Université de Vienne; traduit du Latin, par L. P. Gauthier, D. M. P. 2 vols. 8vo. gives the result of M. Hildebrand's observations during his practice in the Hospital at Vienna. The name of the present professor bids fair to rank with the great names of Van Swieten, Stork, De-Haen, &c. his predecessors in the chair.

Beginn der Differential-Integral. The Principles of the Differential and Integral Calculus, and of Variations. La Haye. The well-known mathematician M. De Gilder, author of this work, treats this very curious and interesting subject in a peculiar way; commencing with the principles of differences, and proceeding to the differential calculus, he demonstrates the connections of both, and elucidates his method by valuable examples.

Weltgeschichte in Zusammen hangender Erzählung. Universal History, in continued Narrations, by Fred. Schlosser, is not confined to the history of princes, but expatiates on the state of society in different nations. It is concise without obscurity, dignified without inflation, and may be regarded as one of the best specimens of historical writing of the present time.

Der Handel als quella des National Einkommens betrachtet. Commerce considered
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as a source of National Income, by Webber Tübingen, was written in consequence of a question proposed by the Academy of Sciences at Tübingen. It displays much information on political economy, and advocates unrestricted commerce.

Summam observationem Anatomicarum ac Physico-chemicarum. Padua. By M. Etienne Gallini—reviews the various anatomical and physico-chemical opinions of different physiologists since 1792, in their attempts to explain the phenomena of life; and states some views of his own.

Annales de l'Academie Gandavennis. Gandavi. The various annals of the universities of Belgium are designed for the reception of the acts of the Senatus Academicus, and of the inaugural discourses, with the answers of those students who are successful. Each of the six universities of the kingdom regularly produces a volume yearly. The government defrays the expenses of publication, and the major part of the copies are sent to the public libraries, and to the establishments for instruction.

Philosophiske og Historiske Afhandlinger. Philosophical and Historical Memoirs of the Royal Society of Sciences. Vol. I. 4to. with 4 Engravings. The Royal Society of Sciences at Copenhagen, founded in 1743, has published several volumes, in which the different memoirs on philosophy and history were combined with those on mathematics and physics. The philosophical and historical memoirs are now published separately. Among the most valuable, in the present vol. are those by M. Thorlacius, on some of the ancient divinities; by M. Munter, Bishop of Lelande, explaining the inscription on an ancient Etruscan altar found at Cortona, as well as a description of some old oriental coins, and one by M. Kamus, on several national pieces of money of the time of St. Canute. These notices are accompanied with engravings. M. Oersted, professor of physics, and perpetual secretary to the society, asserts, from the observations of the latest travellers, that Greenland possesses more than two hundred plants of a perfect organization; several learned naturalists having maintained that only twenty-four varieties could be met with.

Archiv for Historie og Geographie, &c. Archives of History and Geography. By M. J. Chr. Rise, 4 vols. 8vo. Copenhagen—is a judicious compilation, equally entertaining and instructive. A number appears each month, three of which form a volume. Most of the valuable historical works, English, French, and especially German, are laid under contribution, and the sources, whence the articles have been obtained, generally indicated.

Travels in Nubia.—The celebrated Prussian traveller, Baron Rüdiger, though frustrated in the plan of his route, suggested by his last communication, by the reverses in the affairs of Mohamet Ali Pasha, has at

length been enabled, under an escort from the army of that chieftain, to cross the eastern bank of the Nile from the vicinity of Kurgos, and proceeding over a desert plain near the village of Durkah, formed chiefly of alluvial mud, and covered with brambles and rushes, discovered in many places the remains of canals, &c., indicative of former culture and population. He also discovered, in the neighbourhood of a deserted village, lately occupied by the Arabs, some shafts of columns, whose capitals, adorned with heads of Isis, &c., indicated them to have been a portion of some ruined temple. He discovered, also, to the east of these, groups of sepulchres of various forms, one of which he describes as distinguished by its peculiar figure, having a base of protecting stone, twenty feet square and six high, surmounted by a tower of prismatic form fifteen feet high, adorned with Egyptian sculpture, representing the apotheosis of the defunct; the attitudes and drapery of some of the figures in which, he considers as far superior to every thing he had previously seen in Egypt or Nubia, and approaching so near to the Grecian style, that, contrary to generally received opinion, he conceives them to be of more recent date than those of Meroë. The Baron has also been very assiduous in making astronomical observations, for which the fine atmosphere of Nubia is very favourable; but he found the great heat of the climate affect the accuracy of his astronomical instruments very materially. His progress has been attended with great danger; and the fate of his companion, Mr. Hey, who preceded him in the ascent of the river, is very doubtful. The courage, zeal, and perseverance of Baron Rüdiger, should he survive the perils of his venturous travel, promise important obligations to science.

RUSSIA.

Russian Poetry.—The young poet, Puschkin, has completed a new work of about 600 lines, "The Fountain of Baktshisaaral," which is considered as surpassing all his former productions. M. Ponamarew, a bookseller of Moscow, has given 3,000 rubles for the copyright. Puschkin is a literary phenomenon, who, in his thirteenth year, while a pupil in the Lyceum Zarskoe-Selo, composed his first distinguished poem, "Remembrances of Zarskoe-Selo." He is now scarcely twenty-five, yet has composed, besides a number of smaller pieces, three considerable poems, which do honour to the Russian muse, and are quite original. The first of these, "Russlau and Ljudmilla," is a species of epic, in six cantos, which carries us back into the romantic age of Russian chivalry and magic. The second, "Kaw Koskoi Plennik," describes, in smaller compass, but in lively colours, the rude manners of the banditti of Caucasus. Of this, a masterly translation has been made into the German

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German by Wulfert. The third is that which we have mentioned above; and is in fable and execution equally interesting, romantic, and pathetic.

AMERICA.

The American press, owing to the cheapness of the operation there, is in great activity. The importation of books is almost confined to germs for American editions. It is calculated that books, to the value of between 2 and 3,000,000 dollars, are annually published there; and notwithstanding the insecurity of that species of property, 125 copyrights were purchased between January 1822 and April 1823. Five

hundred thousand dollars were invested in one edition of Rees's Encyclopedia. Nearly 200,000 copies of the Waverley novels, comprising 500,000 volumes, have issued from the American press, in nine years; and 4,000 copies of a late American novel were disposed of immediately on its publication. The itinerant book-trade forms a characteristic feature in their literary history. More than 200 waggons are said to be employed in it; 50,000 copies of Weem's Life of Washington have been mostly disposed of by this mode of circulation. Magazines, journals, and reviews abound, and multitudes of newspapers.

NEW MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

Grand Concerto, Op. 64. J. Moeschelles, 8s. Chappel and Co.

THERE is more melody throughout this concerto, than we generally meet with in the works of this composer. The principal subject is in a cantabile style in E sharp, with occasional brilliant digressions—the adagio in C. major, is less complex than is customary in the German school. The rondo on the British Grenadiers' March, is well worked up, and forms a spirited conclusion.

Third Grand Concerto, performed at the Philharmonic Concert. J. Moeschelles, 8s. Chappel.

This concerto as an original composition ranks much higher than the last, and bears manifest traces of the scientific orchestra and audience for which it was composed: the instrumental accompaniments are more difficult and more dispersed through the body of the work, and the general character of the piece is of a superior cast. The first and last movements are in G minor, and are rather scientific than melodious. The adagio in E flat is extremely beautiful, but depends much on the orchestral contrasts. We do not think this concerto will be so popular with amateurs as the last.

A Favourite French Air with Variations, Flute ad lib. Latour 3s. Chappel.

Beethoven's Favourite Serenade with Variations. Kialmark. 3s. Chappel.

These lessons are about the same scale of difficulty; both of the simplest construction; consisting of a repetition of brilliant passages, rather of a common place description, but the general effect is light and pleasing.

Finale to "la Fée de France" with Variations. Czerny 3s. Boosey.

The author characterizes this composition as being in an easy style, and compared with the wild and almost unplayable music that generally proceeds from Mr. Czerny's pen, it may be called so, but it is more difficult than most of the English compositions, even of a higher class. It

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is more likely from the style, to have a general circulation than any of his former works.

Divertimento for the Piano Forte, dedicated to Miss Roulet. G. E. Griffin. 3s. 6d. Clementi and Co.

We recognize the elegant style of our old favourite in almost every passage; and regret, that amongst the mass of new Music that passes through our hands, we do not more frequently meet his name. The divertimento consists of a larghetto introduction, in four flats, of a sweet legato character, with an arpeggio bass running throughout, and an allegro in the same key, A flat, very much broken, and divided between the hands. The piece altogether is beautiful, and not too easy for good practice without presenting any very terrible difficulties.

A Favourite Waltz, with Variations for the Piano Forte; by all the most eminent German Composers. 5s. Boosey and Co.

This is a selection of the most celebrated names, from a work under the same title which has lately made its appearance in Vienna, and caused a great interest. The variations were (we have understood) procured by some finesse, and without any party imagining the purpose to which they were to be applied; which, though not very agreeable to the persons concerned, is probably the best manner of forming a correct estimate of their genuine style. The original work is on a very large scale, and contains many names quite unknown to the British public, from which a very judicious selection has been made; amongst which are, Beethoven, Czerny, Mozart, jun. Gelinck, Hummel, Kalkbrenner, Moeschelles, Mayseder, Litz, &c. We have not room to enter on an analysis, but hope we have roused the curiosity of our readers to attempt that task themselves.

PIANO-FORTE AND FLUTE.

Operatic Divertimentos, No. 5, from the Freischütz; by F. G. Klose. 3s. Chappel.

This is a mere arrangement, but it is executed

cuted with judgment; the flute is generally an accompaniment, but when it takes a prominent feature, the points are well divided.

Introduction and Airs from Tancredi; by Dotzauer, arranged for Piano Forte and Violoncello. W. F. Crouch. 4s. Chapel and Co.

This duet is well adapted for the genius of the respective instruments; the airs are pleasingly selected, but we think it ill-judged to make our old friend "Di tanti" constitute so large a feature in the composition; for, however beautiful the air may be, it certainly rather palls on the appetite.

HARP.

Ombra Adorata Aspetto. Arranged with brilliant Variations and Introduction for the Harp.

These variations are designated brilliant with great justice. The subject is interwoven with the introduction in a very masterly manner; and the repetition of the first strain of the allegro as a codetta produces a good effect, and forms a complete link between the different parts of the composition.

"Amor Possente Numi." Arranged as a Duet for Harp and Piano Forte. G. Holst. 5s. Cocks and Co.

A subject so beautiful could scarcely fail of forming a pleasing duetto. The subject is equally divided between the performers, and both instruments are of easy execution: we think the effect would have been much improved by filling up the harmonies a little more.

The Overture to Der Freischutz, arranged as a Duet for Harp and Piano Forte, with Flute and Violoncello, ad lib. J. Burrowes. Clementi. 6s.

Mr. B. in order to give a different character to his arrangement, has made the harp principal or nearly so; it looks very well on paper; but we should be happy to see Mr. Burrowes perform the harp part, to convince us that it is possible. The flute and violoncello are quite *ad lib.*

"Whilst inconstant Fortune smiled." Duetto in the play of As You Like it. Bishop. 2s. Goulding and Co.

The music adapted to this piece by Bishop, though principally composed last season, has been only introduced to the public eye by the press within the last month; and may, therefore, properly come under our notice. As a whole, it is certainly very inferior to that for the Comedy of Errors, and other of his adapted plays; and we doubt, whether, with the exception of the duet just named, and a hunting glee, any piece will live a twelvemonth. The first part of the duet is sweet and pathetic, and there is much originality in the allegretto, though not sufficiently dramatic in the style to be effective on the stage.

Even as the Sun. Glee in As You Like it. Price 1s. 6d.

Mr. Bishop has always succeeded in hunting or 6-8 glees, as the Foresters, Hawk and Hound, and many others can well testify; and this though last, is by no means the least effective: it is as usual for tenor voices. The air is pleasing, and the transitions are very beautiful.

Crabbed Age and Youth. Trio in Do. 2s. 6d.

Mr. Stevens' glee on the same subject is so strikingly beautiful, and so fresh in the remembrance of every musical person, that we think Mr. B. had better have adapted that to the stage, than hazarded a competition. The last movement is prettily worked up; but it is altogether very inferior to our old friend.

"Then is there Mirth in Heaven." Song in Do. 1s. 6d.

A pretty little song in the style of "should he upbraid;" adapted to the capacity of Master Longhurst:—had the poetry been a little more rational, it would have been a favourite, as it combines a pleasing effect with great facility of execution.—

"Ah me what Eyes." Song in ditto. 1s. 6d.

"If Love had lent you." ditto. 1s. 6d.

"Oh Time thou shalt not boast." ditto. 2s.

None of these songs possess much merit. The two first are adapted to the compass of Miss Tree's voice (a mezzo soprano). The accompaniment to the third is brilliant, and it contains some peculiar vocal passages which are not very effective.

"The Sparkling Bowl." Song, in the Farce of my Uncle Gabriel. Parry. 1s. 6d. Goulding.

This is the best song, in our opinion, that Mr. P. has written; it is for a bass voice, and has a buoyant jovial effect, that is most agreeable.

"The Generous Heart." Round for three voices. ditto Parry. 1s. 6d. Goulding.

Does Mr. Parry call this composition? We think it cannot be necessary to direct his attention to Braham's "Forget Me Not."

THEATRICAL REVIEW.

DRURY LANE.

AMONG the novelties produced, at this theatre, since our last notice, there is little that can add to the reputation of the drama, or commemorate the taste of the management. Parade and splendour, not genius and intellect, seem still to be the objects in requisition; and the scene-painter and the dress-maker have superseded the pretensions of the poet and the actor, and already seem to claim a sort of precedency even in the daily announcements of the placard. As for the poet, indeed, he has long been thrown so completely into the rear of estimation, that the higher intellects of the country

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country feel it necessary to keep aloof from the stage.*

Nov. 29.—After the wearying repetition of *Der Freischütz* and his sculls and goblins, a new grand Oriental Drama, called "*Hafed the Gheber*," was presented, and favourably received. It is professedly taken from "*The Fireworshippers*," the most interesting portion of Moore's "*Lalla Rookh*:" but the dramatist has so far deviated from the story, as to ensure a happy catastrophe. Treachery is frustrated, and tyranny overpowered; and the champion of liberty (released, from bonds and dungeons, by the enamoured daughter of his remorseless oppressor) asserts the independence of his persecuted race, and is crowned at once by victory and love. There are improbabilities enough, of course, in the conduct of so romantic an adventure, and plenty of ambiguity to be explained, if explanations were endurable in so sketchy a thing as a melo-drame. It is more to the purpose that the splendour of processions, costumes, scenery and decorations, the gleam of sabres and the combats of gladiators gave abundant satisfaction to the eye; and if Mrs. W. West, in the Princess *Hinda*, was not quite so killing, as heretofore, in the youthful beauty of her form, or the natural pathos of her voice, the ladies were in some danger from Mr. Wallack's *Hafed*, when he appeared in all the gorgeous adorning of Circassian disguise. The piece itself is not the worst of its kind: the dialogue has the merit of being too brief for weariness; and it is something, as times go, that Harley, in *Fadladine*, the cowardly male attendant of a Turkish princess, was permitted to indulge his native drollery without quite obliterating the effects of his own good humour and whimsical grimace, by the protracted dullness of abortive absurdities. It requires some tact, at least, if not some talent, even to write nonsense enduringly; and of this the author does not seem to be entirely destitute.†

Dec. 10.—Another afterpiece was brought forward, under the name of *My Uncle Gabriel*, described in the advertisement as a "new operatical farce:" as if the mere introduction of three or four songs, adapted to old music, would constitute a farce operatical. It is a slight, but rather amusing performance in its way; the more so, as it is not long. Half, or three-quarters of an hour, is duration enough for a mere farce: if it trespasses much further, it ought to have something better mingled with it—some touch of nature or social interest, to relieve the risible muscles; lest the grin degenerate into a yawn, or the laugh become more spasmodic than hilarious. A strain

or two of sweet and original music may answer the purpose; but, in the present instance, though Mr. J. Parry's medley overture was a pleasantly arranged selection, and some of the songs were old acquaintance, whom we had no objection to meet again with new faces, *Uncle Gabriel* owed little of his favourable reception to the music. In this, however, Mr. Bedford (one of the transplanted vocalists of the season) shewed that, with a good, though not very deep, or very cultivated, bass, he could sing a jovial song with *éclat*: as, indeed, he ought—for his character (a wine-bibbing, do-nothing-at-all sort of hanger-on) nephew *Scrip*, was evidently introduced for no other purpose.

As for Horne, in the half-pay *Lieutenant Sutton* (whose exploits in tricking the old stock-broker, *Gabriel Omnium*, out of his niece and her £20,000 fortune, by the assistance of his bottle companion, *Jack Ready*, alias *Peter Profile*, alias *Ben Bluster*, alias *Uncle Gabriel*, constitute the whole of the plot)—he had little opportunity of advancing his vocal reputation; and for Miss Povey (the niece, *Eliza*), though she has still two or three notes of exquisite sweetness, to ring the changes upon, she is so far from improving as a songstress, that, if it were not for an easy sort of playful pertness in her manner, which sometimes approaches towards comic acting, she might be in danger of idling herself out of public favour. Knight, in *Toby Tacit*, a talkative little hen-pecked inn-keeper, indulged his native vein of humour; and Mrs. Orger (who should never trespass beyond this line of parts), as the equally talkative *Mrs. T.*, helped out the laugh. But Harley, with his enumerated aliases, was the life of the whole, and kept the house in good humour, by his own happy art of being always in good humour with himself: else we might observe that, through all his metamorphoses, it is only in costume that he plays the Proteus; for, whether Dutch sailor, or English nabob, bottle companion or itinerant portrait painter, Harley will still be Harley:—twist his face, poke his chin, thrust out his unnameable in one direction, and strut with bended knee and prancing foot in the other; shake his lips and snap off the ends of his words, in alternate semi-bass and piping treble, and laugh with one half of his face, while he stares and looks bluff with the other. But though all this, most assuredly, hath no pretence to be called acting, he contrives, somehow or other, to make it very amusing.

The farce was preceded by Sheridan's once delightful *School for Scandal*; but we scarcely recognized in it, the vein of high comic humour so conspicuous in the original acting. Elliston was announced for *Charles*; but an apology of ill health was made, and Wallack took the part—a change in which there was no loss; for, though he did not play it to the full delineated height of spirited and elegant vivacity, yet he was tolerably

* There are other and more efficient reasons than the supposed inaudible dimensions of our theatres, why we are never to expect good play-writing—or, indeed, good acting of plays, again. We may make these the subjects of some future essay.

† There are some even, who, with no other talents, pass for wits.

tolerably gentlemanly and very respectable ; and we are tired of seeing the character slovenly through, as if there were no difference between the accomplished *bons vivans* of the youthful days of Sheridan, and the lounging, lackadaisical, half-clownish, egotistical dandies of the present generation. The fashionables of those days, with all their follies and their vices, were *gentlemen* in their manners ; and we could wish to see them still represented on the stage, if it were only that we might not lose the remembrance of what the word gentleman means. The penalty of the exchange was, that we were obliged to see Mr. Archer stalk through the specious and insinuating sentimentality of *Joseph Surface*, like a clerk through the mechanical business of a counting-house. Even Mrs. Yates, charming little actress as she is, gave us but a *sketch* of *Lady Teazle* ; and the high-fashion belles, *Lady Sneerwell* and *Mrs. Candour*, had their places occupied by Mrs. Knight and Mrs. Orger !!! A Mr. Downe, from York, attempted *Sir Peter Teazle* : but the humour in his *doing*, seemed principally to consist in a provincial gait, and an accent half Yorkshire and half Irish. He was endured, without audible murmur, to the beginning of the fifth act ; when some hissing brought him forward to make a speech—in which he complained of a cold, and the great difference between the text of the play as acted here and in the country, and craved suspension of judgment till another hearing : a prayer which the audience readily granted ; but the manager has not—at least in this character—and, probably, never will. In the name of common sense, what has become of Dowton ? He, though not a *Sir Peter Teazle*, would at least substitute something pleasant and amusing in its place. TOM KING must rise from his grave, before we see the character again in all its fidelity.

In the operatical department, on the 1st of the month, Mr. Sapio (of standard repute as a *concert singer*) made his *début* on the stage as the *Seraskier*, in “The Siege of Belgrade,” and may be regarded as a valuable acquisition. As an actor, in this line, he is not without promise : as a singer, not an unworthy successor to Braham. His voice has richness and compass ; his tenor notes are full and sweet ; and his falsetto is clear, sweet, and discriminate : but he has the false taste of introducing it sometimes, as in the martial strain “Love and honour now conspiring,” where it is out of place. His physical power does not appear to be equal to his other endowments. It was put, however, to very severe trial, by numerous *encores*. “My heart with love is beating,” was eminently brilliant and expressive ; as was his part of the duet, “When thy bosom,” &c. with Miss Stephens : but in “Confusion ! thus defeated !” and in that alone, he failed. His *début* upon the whole was brilliantly successful. Miss Stephens, the *Lilla*, was

in fine voice, as sweet and clear as ever : and if as a singer she does not *improve*, as an actress she does, beyond all expectation. Miss Graddon, in *Katherine*, shewed that she can be less inanimate in more serious, than she has been in lighter, scenes. The proper music of the character, especially “Tell me, my heart,” she sung with great effect ; but shewed her want of judgment in the unnecessary and inappropriate introduction of Bishop’s “When in disgrace,” in which she failed. Bedford’s *Anselm* (another novelty), notwithstanding a sort of slovenly lisping thickness in his utterance, shewed an ability fairly adequate to the cast of character : he sung the introduced “Sapling Oak” better than we have heard it since the days of Sedgwick.

Of tragedy we have had but scanty specimens. Mr. Macready continues to play, in his fine unrivalled style, the last act of *Leontes*, in the “Winter’s Tale ;” and to shew his incompetency to the fitful and gloomy turbulence of *King John*. Mr. Kean, of course, like the other figure of the weather house, cannot come out till he retires. What a bucket-in-the-well system is this ! How can we have a Stage while this is tolerated ? Is it play-acting, or is it mono-drama ? He has played, also, *Jacques* in “As You like it,” and has his admirers in the character : but his melancholy is too phlegmatic for the *Jacques* of Shakespeare.

This beautiful pastoral romantic play has been re-produced at both houses—more marred than mended by the introduction of songs, duets and choruses : not that it is the most unfitted of Shakespeare’s plays for such innovation, but because it is one that demands high acting : the incompetency to supply which is probably the reason why recourse has been had to sing-song. But nothing can compensate for the want of an adequate *Rosalind* ; and nothing can more completely demonstrate the general feeling of the indispensableness of high acting in this part,—and that, even in the “Cuckoo song” itself, so indecorously adopted from “Love’s Labour Lost,” no charm of voice or musical science can atone for the absence of such acting, than the circumstance that Miss Tree, at the other house, (fine vocalist as she is, and, for a singer, no despicable actress, though not up to the heights of such a character), is the only performer we ever heard sing that popular song without being honoured with an *encore*.

But we have stepped, already, somewhat unceremoniously, from Drury to

COVENT GARDEN.

A new tragedy under the name of *Ravenna* ; or, *Italian Love*, was produced here Dec. 3 : the joint production of two young authors, whom we cannot yet compliment as the Beaumont and Fletcher of their age. It “is founded,” they inform us, “upon the *Cabal and Love* of the admirable

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mirable Schiller;" with more "modifications" than improvements, we should say, "of feeling; sentiment, and character." We see in it as little of "the spirit," as of "the letter of the original;" and of "passages of high poetical beauty, or of a pathos gracefully, simple, natural and affecting," none at all. The incident of *Giana* being terrified into writing a letter, which represents her as a faithless wanton, and into binding herself, by solemn oath, never to vindicate her innocence, on which the fatal catastrophe hinges, is, as it is here managed, so stupidly impossible, as to put the broad extinguisher of incredulity, at once, upon all sympathies and interests with the heroine, or in the fable; while the broad-face caricature, *Count Gaudentia* (Mr. Yates again, with a change only of costume, fresh from the mess-room of the exquisites, of the 20th, or 10th, if you please, in "Pride shall have a Fall") as a prominent instrument for a catastrophe of death and horrors, is a revolting incongruity that would disgrace the pen and judgment of a school-boy. Is it not enough that our comedy has degenerated into farce? must our tragedies become farces also? It were in vain to criticise the acting lavished on such absurdities: but it may be acknowledged that Miss Lacey and Miss F. H. Kelly did more for the respective characters of the rival *Princess* and the humble *Giana* than the writing deserved; but that even Mrs. Davenport could only make, of the gossip *Beatrice*, a miserable imitation of the *Nurse* in "Romeo and Juliet."

"King John" has been got up *here*, also, with great splendour. It is played in the true spirit of rivalry at both houses, on the same night; and, if the acting of Shakspeare's dramas has not attraction for the play-going public, the costumes of the ages and characters he represents, have. The taylor and mantua-makers have the reputation of performing their parts well; whatever may be the case with the actors and actresses. In the only female character of importance, Drury Lane has undoubtedly the advantage. Mrs. Bunn is not, it is true, a Mrs. Siddons; but she is the best *Lady Constance* we have. Mrs. Bartley neither looks, nor moves, nor speaks the character. The laboured mechanism of syllabic-distinctness, the overstrained quantities of monotonous vowels, the preconcerted transitions from the loudest to the softest aspiration, upon the same key-note, cannot represent the storm and the melting shower; the perturbations, the indignant scorn, the fond affections, the pathetic bewailings of the high-minded and agonized mother, who sees her loved and only child hurled from the towering prospect of a throne, to captivity and dungeons and impending death. Mr. Young, also, must have perceived, from the rareness and scanty feebleness of the plaudits which accompanied some of the electrifying pas-

sages of his author, that mere scowling glances, from features illumined by no infelt passion, and studied appropriations of attitude and motion, with a tedious formality of *unmetrical* recitation, diversified only by the alternations of loud and soft, like the beat of Lord Monboddos drum,* cannot communicate to an audience the guileful struggle and the bursting storm of soul, the fearful agitations, the headlong humours of a character of mere passions and impulses, in such scenes and situations as Shakspeare has placed him in:—in short, that it was Mr. Young who, from general estimation, was put up with, where King John was looked for: not King John that was recognised as identified in the acting of Mr. Young. C. Kemble's *Falconbridge* was the only reputable performance in the cast: which, though not exactly all, perhaps, that Shakspeare meant, in combination of easy humour and confident high-aspiring heroism, is certainly one of Mr. K.'s best characters; and one in which he distances all rivalry among his contemporaries. Bennett, in some parts of some of the scenes of *Hubert*, shewed some indications of capabilities for an actor, if he had discretion enough to avoid mongrel imitations of Kean and Macready, and those ranting bursts of vociferation with which, every now and then, he "cleaves the general ear."

Dec. 15.—Mr. Sinclair made his first appearance, for the season, as *Prince Orlando*, in "The Cabinet." He was in excellent voice, and paid a little more attention to the dialogue and business of the scene than heretofore. His "Polacca," in particular, was beautifully executed, with more chastity of taste, richer melody and more skilful transitions, we should say, than his precursor, but with less of what may be called dramatic expression. He was compelled to sing it three times. To all the music, native to the piece, he did ample justice; but failed in the injudiciously introduced melody, "Believe me when all those endearing young charms;" and the feeling seemed to be universal that it was out of unison. These arbitrary introductions, without reference to the general character of the music with which they are to be mingled, cannot be too much discountenanced.

Of the performance of "The Fair Penitent," (on the 20th) we have only space to say, that Mrs. Sloman was as successful in *Calista*, as the repulsive nature of the character could well admit; that Young, in *Horatio*, was every where respectable, and in some of the scenes and passages, in spite of his mannerisms, highly effective; and that Kemble, in *Lothario*, was quite at home. But more of this, perhaps, hereafter.

* His Lordship critically maintained, that there are no other varieties of tone, in the speaking voice, than those of loud and soft in the beating of a drum. Verily some of our actors seem to be most orthodoxly of his Lordship's creed.

VARIETIES, LITERARY AND MISCELLANEOUS;

Including Notices of Works in hand, Domestic and Foreign.

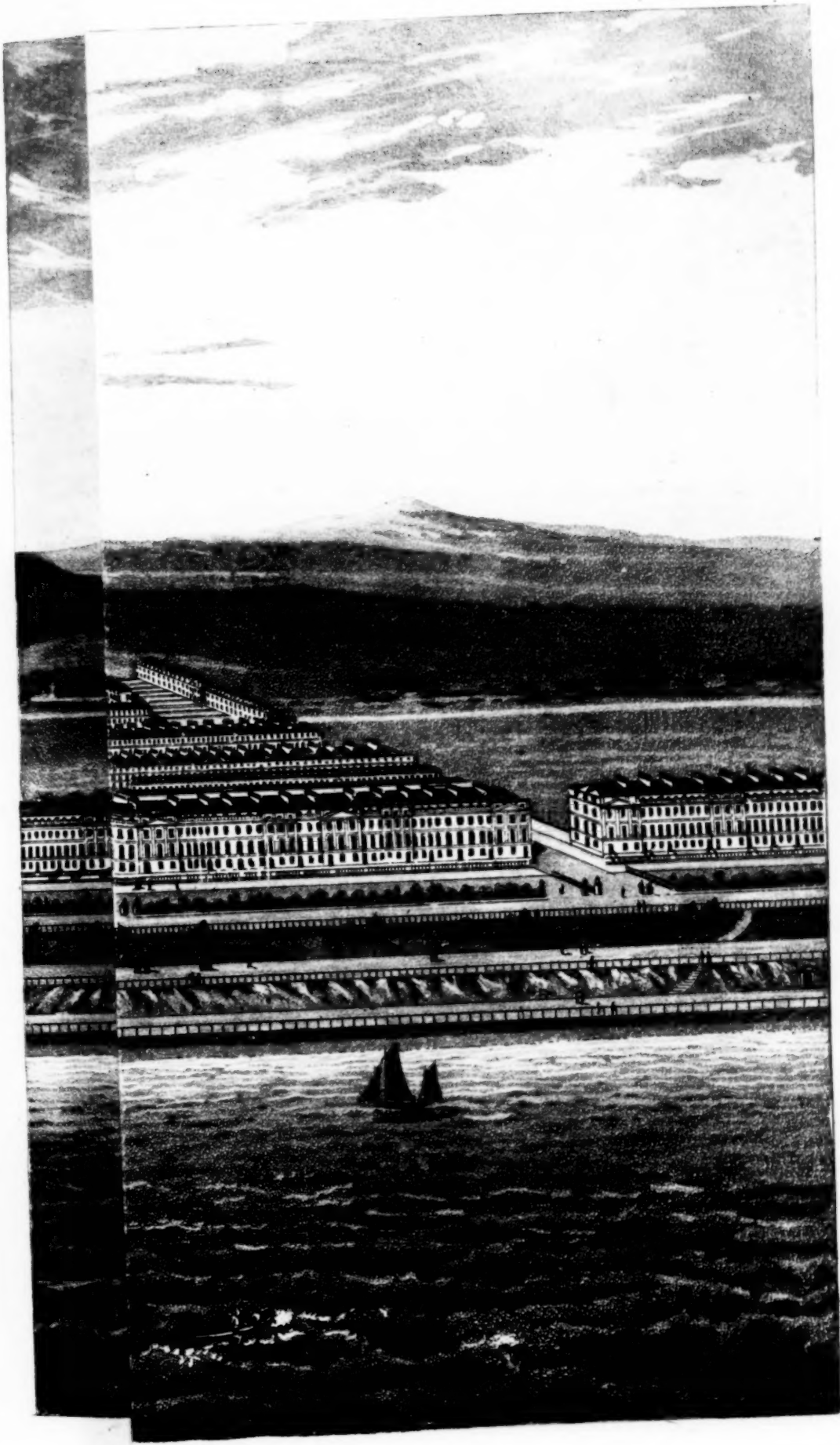
IMPROVEMENTS AT BRIGHTON. [*With an Engraving on Steel, of the new and splendid Buildings erecting there, called KEMP-TOWN.*]

BRIGHTON, though at the distance of fifty miles from the centre of the metropolis, has now become a metropolitan suburb; and, as a branch of the vast whole, is maintaining its due proportion with the main body. From a fishing hamlet of two hundred and fifty houses, standing on a beach a furlong in length, it has, within a century, or even within the memory of man, expanded into a spacious and magnificent town, with a frontage to the sea full three miles in extent. In A.D. 1700 its population did not exceed 1,500 souls, and now, in the season, and its season continues ten months out of the twelve, it accommodates at least 40,000 residents and strangers.

The demand for houses has led to extensions of the town inland; but as those are first sought which enjoy a sea view, plans have lately been adopted for extending the town opposite the sea both to the east and west. This frontage is now full two miles; but when the new erections are completed, the marine promenade, lying directly south, and protected by the houses from the N. and N.E. winds, will extend three miles. Hitherto the line has been interrupted by some ill-contrived buildings in one part; but notice is given of an Act of Parliament, which, within a year or two, will enable the public spirited commissioners to unite the whole in one unbroken and matchless esplanade. The immense extent of buildings, at this time, in rapid progress to the eastward, is on the estate of Thomas Read Kemp, Esq. M.P. at a place called Black Rock, and comprises the most magnificent arrangement of private dwellings in the United Kingdom; forming, in fact, a new town, to which the public voice has appropriated the founder's name. The whole have a southern aspect, and include a square, larger than Grosvenor-square, London, opening from the centre of a crescent, whose span (800 feet) is at least 200 feet greater than that of the celebrated Royal Crescent at Bath, and terminated at both extremities by a wing of 350 feet. The fronts of the houses are adorned with columns, pilasters, and entablatures of the Corinthian order, surmounted by

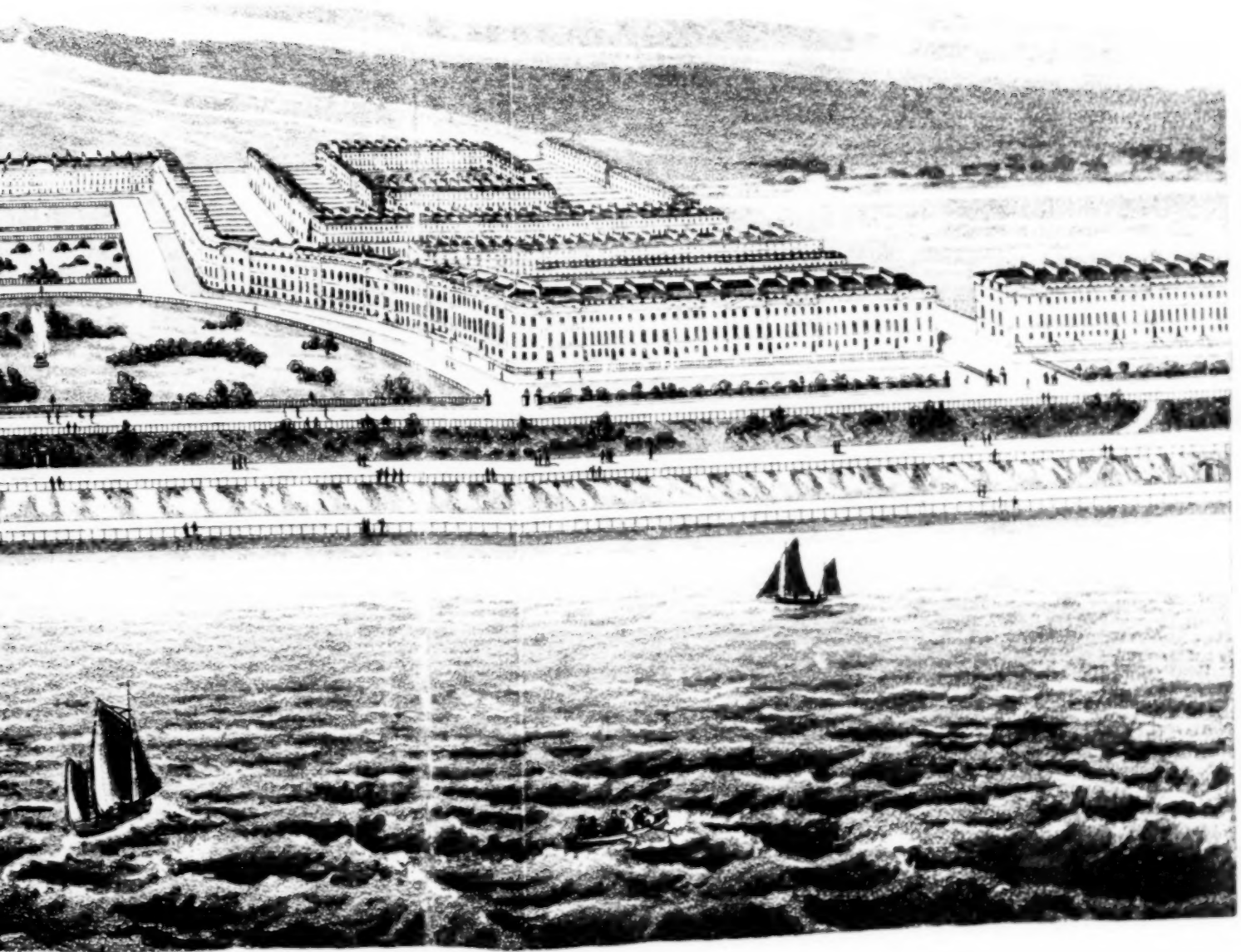
corresponding ballustrades; and the crescent and squares contain inclosures and pleasure-grounds of many acres, which are now railing in, with cast-iron, to a new and elegant design, and are to be laid down with walks, lawns, and plantations. The whole extent of the building façade exceeds three thousand feet, in front of which a stone foot-pavement, wider than that in Portland-place, London, is now forming. The ground, in the rear of this great work, is distributed into squares of a minor order, and into shop-streets, stabling, &c. On the south side of the road, which extends along the sea, in front of the crescent and its wings, the cliff is now cutting away, and a glacis, descending 15 feet, will be terminated by an esplanade, commanding the most beautiful and sheltered prospect of the ocean which can well be conceived; in addition to which, a lower esplanade, on the principle of that attached to the chain-pier, will stretch itself along the base of the cliff, which, at this place, is at least 60 feet high. The access to this lower esplanade is to be by a gradual descent from the marine parade, at the western end, and by a spacious tunnel cut through the rock, from the centre of the crescent lawn, appropriated to the exclusive use of the surrounding habitations. The site, on which these works are proceeding, seems to have been formed by nature for some great undertaking; the towering cliffs rise abruptly from an almost level beach, and the gradual shelving of the land on the summit lends its powerful influence in promoting the general architectural effect. The influence, which the rapid progress of Kemp Town has had, in raising the value of the intervening landed property, is beyond example, and the whole will, in all probability, be built upon in the course of next year. A new and spacious chapel-of-ease is erecting, pursuant to a recent Act of Parliament; and Major Russell, and other gentlemen of fortune, are building on the most extensive scale, the whole involving an expenditure of at least half a million. The above works, and the others, of equal magnitude, at the west end of Brighton, on the estate of the Rev. Thomas Scutt, are carried on under the direction of Messrs. Wilds and Busby, architects.

Dr. Gil-



View
of Brighton





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Dr. Gilchrist's Lectures on the Hindoostanee and Persian Languages.—This interesting and original course of instruction is principally addressed to gentlemen designed for the army, navy, and several military and civil institutions of the East-India Company's service; but is attended also by other pupils desirous of attaining a familiarity with the the oriental languages. The views and principles of the Lecturer are applicable, in fact, to a still more extensive range of educational and intellectual purposes. We will only notice, however, their tendency to facilitate the attainment of all languages in general, and to enlarge and render more accurate the comprehension of our own. By leading the student directly to the syllabic root and etymology, whether of apparently simple or obviously composite words, tracing the analogies between things and their symbols, ideas and the sounds that are to suggest them, and illustrating the rationale of verbal composition and inflection, the subject is simplified, while the perceptions are enlarged,—the primary vocabulary brought into a smaller compass, and the labour of the memory consequently abridged, while the comprehension of the process, purposes and appliances of language, being impressed at once on the imagination and the understanding, the drudgery of mechanical detail is in a considerable degree abridged: as aggregates become easily understood when their elements are already known. In short, the process of Dr. Gilchrist is not that of the technical grammarian, but of the philosophic reasoner, who applies analysis where the pedant only dogmatizes, and trusts to memory rather as the result, than appeals to it as the basis of intellectual comprehension. The impressive energy with which his instructions are delivered, and the interrogatory system by which he proceeds tend alike to keep the attention of his pupils constantly on the alert, and consequently to accelerate attainment.

Dr. Gilchrist's "Theory of the Latin Verb," appears to deserve more attention than it has yet met with; which it will, probably, receive in a future notice of this miscellany.

Mr. Boone's Lectures.—On Tuesday, the 24th ult., Mr. James Shergold Boone gave his fourth Lecture upon Universal Knowledge. These Lectures are styled "Pneumathia, or a New Method of Knowledge capable of universal application in literature and the sciences, and adapted to the most important practical purposes of both public and private life." His grand principle is—the Unity of Knowledge; that the different sciences are as radii diverging from this unity, and forming a circle,—meeting, therefore, in knowledge, as in the common point or centre. His definition of knowledge is, "sense acting upon matter."

Mr. Boone projects a new Philosophical

Dictionary, or a Vocabulary containing a new language for Philosophy, in which one word should be suited to one idea, and one idea to one word; that being the only method to arrive at a precision of expression, and avoidance of those mistakes which occur in consequence of twenty significations being appended to one word.

Mr. Boone is M.A., and Student of Christ Church, Oxford. Having proceeded thither from the Charter-house in 1817, he distinguished himself, by gaining, in the first term of his residence, a University scholarship, against formidable competitors, together with the two annual prizes for Latin and English verse, to which, after taking his degree of B.A., he added the prize for an English Essay.

FINE ARTS.

It has been long regretted by a judicious public, that, year after year, the Exhibition at the Royal Academy is thronged with myriads of portraits, about which none but the individuals themselves, or their immediate friends, can feel any interest. This circumstance must tend very much to the disappointment of the public, who, as a collective body, are looking for some object of perfection in the higher sphere of taste, and are, probably, contrasting our apparent paucity in this department in comparison with the productions of foreign schools, and, still more, with those of former days. But, much as the late practice of our British artists has tended to confirm this complaint, and verify the Abbé Winckelmann's ridiculous prejudice, so ably confronted by the arguments and practice of the late Professor Barry, we are informed that the ensuing exhibition is to refute the charge; it being understood that several promising specimens of historical painting are to be offered to the Somerset-house Committee. The zeal for building churches has suggested to an artist of rising reputation, the production of a picture calculated for an altarpiece, the subject of which is taken from the eighth chapter of St. Matthew's Gospel, verse 28. A future opportunity may be afforded, to offer our remarks upon this production.

We have great pleasure in observing, that Mrs. John Browning, formerly Miss H. A. E. Jackson, has resumed her pencil. Among the historical paintings of this lady, "Naomi and her Daughters," exhibited at the British Gallery in 1812, and now in the possession of the Countess de Grey; "Cleopatra dissolving the Pearl;" and "Judith and her Maid going down to the Camp of Holofernes,"—will be particularly in the remembrance of the lovers of the art; as will several of the historical, allegorical, and fancy subjects, as well as portraits, from the same pencil. The object of our present announcement is a picture from the pencil of Raffaello, copied by this lady last year in Florence, and lately brought to this country. It

It is a "Madonna col Bambino," in the second manner of that great master; and, we are given to understand, the only copy ever made. The original is in the *private* collection of His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke of Tuscany, and was held in such esteem by the lately-deceased sovereign, Ferdinand the Third, that he had a case prepared to move it to wherever he was sojourning. The exclusive privilege of copying it was obtained, we understand, by Mrs. Browning, only through very "especial favour;" other applications having been refused. The peculiar delicacy expressed in the face of the Virgin, the playfulness and attitude of the child, are to be regarded as among the characteristic beauties of this fine picture; and, though we hold it not decorous to criticise that which is not yet before the public, we may go so far as to say, that we have not often seen any copy from this divine artist, which better preserved the characteristic beauties of his pencil.

On Thursday, 9th inst, was unwrapped at the Bristol Institution, the body of an Egyptian mummy. The case, which was beautifully covered with hieroglyphics, exhibited rather the copper-coloured countenance of a Nubian, than the expanded forehead and wide eye-sockets of an Ethiopian. Dr. Pritchard, Dr. Gapper, and Mr. Richard Smith, surgeon, and Mr. Miller, the curator, were appointed by the committee to be demonstrators. The upper part of the shell being removed, there arose a peculiar, but not unpleasant odour. The skin was blackened, and the neck and one of the hands had been attacked by a peculiar sort of coleopterous insect, apparently a dermistis. In other respects, this curious specimen of antiquity was very perfect, much more so than usual. It was the body of a (probably young) female. The hands were placed straight upon the thighs, and not, as most frequently happens, across the bosom. The hair upon the head was perfect, of a brownish auburn colour, short, but not at all wearing the character of a negro's. The contour of the countenance strengthened the opinion that the subject belonged to a province closely bordering upon the confines of Egypt. The coverings of the chest and stomach being removed, exhibited, in high preservation, the heart and lungs, and all the intestines. It was thought advisable to subject the head to a more leisurely and minute observation. Mr. Smith then pointed out the difference between bodies preserved by direct antiseptics, and those converted by moisture into the substance called *adipocere*. To exemplify which, he exhibited from his museum several fine specimens, and amongst others, the heart of Master Sheriff Yeamans, executed in Wine Street, by Cromwell's officer, Colonel Fiennes, on the 30th May, 1643, exhumated in 1814, being quite perfect, after the lapse of 171 years! Mr. Smith undertook to draw up a me-

moir, and Dr. Pritchard promised to read before the Philosophical and Literary Society a paper upon the subject of mummies, on the 30th of this month.

The number of members of the Mechanics' Institution, who have actually paid up their subscriptions, is stated in the last quarterly report to be about 750; and on the 2d of December, being the anniversary of its formation, the first stone of a building for a Theatre and Lecture-room, in Southampton-buildings, was laid by Dr. Birkbeck, the president, who, in addressing the meeting, observed, that "they had founded a temple wherein man would extend his acquaintance with the universe of mind, and acquire the means of enlarging his dominion over the universe of matter; in which literature and the powers of science would be unfolded to the most humble inquirers, and reason be as unbounded as the regions of intellect." The patrons and members afterwards dined together at the Crown and Anchor, Dr. Birkbeck in the chair: several excellent speeches were made by the chairman, Mr. Brougham, Mr. Hume, &c.

We hear that the Misses Burford have nearly completed a most extensive view of the City of Edinburgh, and the surrounding country, taken from the summit of Calton Hill. This picture is intended for the large circle at Leicester Square.

We learn with pleasure, that the beautiful copy of the Zodiac of Dendera, in Parian marble, made by order of Buonaparte, is now in the possession of Mr. Gale, bookseller, in Bruton Street, Berkeley Square. This valuable curiosity will shortly, however, we trust, be transferred to the British Museum.

A meeting has been held at Paris for establishing a Mechanics' Institution there, at which that of Glasgow was highly and honourably mentioned by the gentleman who opened the proceedings.

Polar Land Expedition. — Letters from York Factory speak very favourably of the condition of the exploring party. Venison and partridges especially abound, and the people are kept in good order by their officers. Two Esquimaux have joined the party, one of whom was with Captain Franklin on the last Arctic expedition, where he was a very useful attendant. Captain F. purposes to pursue the route of the Slave Lake.

The contractors being unable to supply a sufficient quantity of iron pipes in time, temporary wooden posts have been set up in Bryanstone-square and Oxford-street, for the purpose of conducting the gas to the lamps.

Professor Buckland has published a letter relative to the cave lately discovered at Banwell. The Professor states the thickness of the mass of sand, mud, and limestones, through which the bones, horn, and teeth are dispersed, to be in one place nearly forty feet. He adds,—"Many large baskets

baskets full of bones have already been extracted, belonging to the ox and its tribe: of the latter there are several varieties, including the elk. There are also a few portions of the skeleton of a wolf, and of a gigantic bear. The bones are mostly in a state of preservation, equal to that of common grave bones; but it is clear, from the fact of some of them belonging to the great extinct species of the bear, that they are of an antediluvian origin."

Mr. W. Mogford, veterinary surgeon, lately cut for the stone a valuable horse, belonging to James Veal, Esq., in Devonshire: the calculus extracted weighed more than four ounces and a half. The operation succeeded perfectly, and the horse soon recovered.

It appears from the recent annual report of the West of England Eye Infirmary, that 436 cases have been cured within the year, of whom five were blind from cataract.

Australasian Agricultural Company.—A new company, under this title, has just been incorporated by royal charter, for the purpose of extending cultivation, and producing wool of the finest quality, in New South Wales. Government has made a grant of a million of acres, rent-free, for the first five years, to the company.

The excessive rate of tonnage charged on the *Stroudwater Navigation*, and the company refusing to take 2½d. per ton per mile for coals, and so in proportion for other goods, have induced the spirited manufacturers, who are sufferers thereby, to project the *Stroud and Severn railway*, from the *Thames and Severn canal* termination, near Brinscombe, to the Severn; with branches to Milsworth and to other villages near the line: £50,000 is the estimated expense of these works.

A conspicuous *green buoy*, the usual denomination of a *sunken wreck*, has by the Trinity Board, been placed in the part of the Thames mouth, called the *Cant*, on a *sunken sloop*; which endangered vessels in low states of the tide, sailing between the five-fathom channel and the Nore. From this buoy, Minster church bears W. by S., and the spile buoy E. S. E.

The expenses of the projected railway from Birmingham to the banks of the Mersey, are found so far to exceed the estimated amount, that the branches to Shropshire, Dudley, and Stourbridge are abandoned: notwithstanding this, it has been determined to raise a further sum of £200,000, by the creation of £4,000 additional shares; thus increasing the number from 12,000 to 16,000.

It is proposed to form a rail-road from London to Birmingham, connecting at the latter place with the already-commenced undertaking, the Birmingham and Liverpool rail-road: the expense is estimated at £1,000,000, and the number of shares proposed to be issued is 20,000, at £50 each.

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Measures are taking to unite this with another company at Birmingham, who have long ago engaged in the same object.

Mr. Wood, of Hawkeshead, has, with one or two terriers, killed 125 rats and one foulmart within the last few weeks: he has calculated that, supposing there are 1,300 mills in England and Wales, and that each mill contains 150 rats, each rat destroying two ounces of meal a day, the whole number will consume about 15 lbs. per day, or about 5,375 lbs. per year; and supposing that there are 1,300 towns and villages, each containing on an average 160 houses, and each two rats, consuming in the same proportion, making 52,000 lbs. Add to which, that, though mice consume less, yet as their number perhaps is four times greater, the destruction produced by them will be about the same: that is to say, we may calculate upon an annual destruction of upwards of 100,000 lbs. weight of meal by domestic vermin only.—*Query.* How many poor families would this comfortably sustain?

Mr. J. Beedel, the celebrated penman of Ottery St. Mary, whom we noticed a short time since, is now engaged in executing a number of beautiful etchings, and various kinds of writing, on a spacious sheet of drawing paper, which bid fair to exceed any of his former productions as specimens of penmanship.

Different languages, to the number of three thousand and sixty-four, are in use in different quarters, states, and districts of the earth, as appears from a learned work of M. Aldeling, wherein are arranged and classed the vocabularies, more or less perfect, of 937 Asiatic, 587 European, 276 African, and 1,264 American languages and dialects! If all languages originated amongst the constructors of the Tower of Babel, as some contend, what a mighty confusion must have attended and succeeded the conclusion of that work.

A dangerous leakage from the gas-pipe into the empty water-pipe, under the pavement of Bell-street, Lisson Green, took place some time about the middle of November; which on the 19th, and again on the 2d of December, occasioned most alarming explosions, on the taking of candles into cellars, on both sides of the street, by persons who, having no gas-pipes in their houses, could have no suspicion of the caution which, nevertheless, all persons ought to use, on the smelling of gas in any cellar or close room, by instantly sending for the gas-man, and keeping candles carefully from the spot. The ball-cock of one house was forcibly blown off into the water-butt, on happening to bring a candle near the pipe's mouth. The superintendants of the laying of gas-pipes ought to use the precaution of ramming tempered clay between their joints, and those of the water mains, or the sewer culverts, when near each other, for preventing other occurrences of this nature; and,

and, generally, whenever water ouses up in the street, or gas is perceived by its smell to come out of the joints of the pavement, or out of the kennel grates, the water or the gas turncocks ought to be immediately sent for, and required to do their duty to the public in causing the immediate stopping of such leaks.

The late fire in the new buildings of King's Court, Trinity College, Cambridge, in which were seen gownsmen and townsmen, juniors and slip-shod seniors, working, pell-mell, at pumps and buckets; learned professors hurrying across their classic and scientific arcades with piles of *slop-pails* on each arm; and buff-jerkined labourers, swearing at reverend doctors and masters who stood in the way, but regardless of such unceremonious address, gave place,—was checked, indeed wholly got under, with such admirable promptitude, that perhaps the loss will be covered by 3 or £400; it will fall, we believe, if he be uninsured, on the contractor.

A subscription has been commenced by his Majesty, for the widow of Mr. Muss, the celebrated artist, the royal bounty having been defeated by the secret sale of the Exchequer bills, which Mr. Fauntleroy was commissioned to purchase for the deceased artist's family.

WORKS IN HAND.

La Belle Assemblée, or Court and Fashionable Magazine, commences a New Series this month, with Lady Belgrave's Portrait, by Sir Thos. Lawrence, P. R. A.; and promises to form, progressively, a Picture-gallery of the Female Nobility of Great Britain.

In the press, the sixth volume of Baron Humboldt's work on Colombia, entitled, 'Personal Narrative of Travels in the Equinoctial Regions of the New Continent.' Translated by Helen Maria Williams, under the immediate inspection of the author.

The Annual Biography and Obituary. Among the memoirs that will be read with painful interest, are those of Lord Erskine; Mr. Belzoni; Joseph Marryatt, Esq.; Admiral Russell; Rev. Thomas Maurice; Thomas Edward Bowdich, Esq.; Lord Byron; the Marquess of Litchfield; Charles Grant, Esq.; Sir Edward Buller; &c. &c.

Memoirs of Elizabeth Stuart, Queen of Bohemia, Sister of King Charles I.; with Contemporary Sketches of Society in Holland and Germany, including Biographies of some Distinguished Personages during the 17th century. By Miss Benger.

Memoirs of Moses Mendelssohn, the Jewish Philosopher; including the celebrated Correspondence between him and J. C. Lavater, on the Christian Religion.

Delineations of Gloucestershire; being Views of the Principal Seats of Nobility and Gentry, and other objects of prominent interest in that County; with historical and

descriptive Notices. The drawings to be made, and the plates engraved, by Messrs. Storers; the historical notes by J. N. Brewer, Esq.; and dedicated, by permission, to His Grace the Duke of Beaufort, Lord Lieutenant of the County.

No. I., for January, of the *Inquirer*; containing Mathematical and Philosophical Essays, and a considerable Mathematical Correspondence; conducted by Mr. W. Marrot.

The Second Volume of Mr. Wiffen's Translation of Tasso, which was destroyed at the late fire at Mr. Moyes's, is again at press, and will make its appearance, in the same style of embellishment as the First Volume, in about three months.

Thoughts on the Police of England; with Observations on the Prevention of Crime, and the Disposal of Criminals. The Appendix will contain Tables compiled from parliamentary and official documents, some of which are unpublished, arranged in the most convenient form.

Richard Baynes' General Cheap Catalogue of Old Books; including many rare and curious articles, and the most popular works in the various classes of literature; with a large collection of Divinity and Sermons, English and foreign. Svo.

On the Advancement of Society in Science, Civilization, and Religion. By James Douglas, Esq. of Cavers. In 1 vol. Svo.

The Prosodian Alphabetical Directory; or, Ready Guide to the Quantity of every Syllable of the Latin Language. By William Moseley, LL.D.

Also, a Greek Directory, on the same plan; and Greek Exercises, on the plan of the Eton Latin Minora.

Mr. Aaron Arrowsmith will publish in a few days, *Outlines of the World*, exemplified in Forty-five Engravings of the various Countries; on which their Post-roads and Statistical Divisions, as well as their Physical Features, will be clearly described. Size of the plates, 12 inches by 9.

Travels in Greece, with Critical and Archaeological Researches; and Maps and Engravings of Ancient Monuments recently discovered, by Dr. P. O. Brondsted, Agent of H. M. the King of Denmark, at the Court of Rome, in 8 Parts, royal 4to, are announced for publication.

Mr. Boaden's *Life of J. P. Kemble*, Esq., 2 vol. Svo. will be published in January.

Mr. Southey has in the press, "A Tale of Paraguay," in 1 vol. 12mo., and "Dialogues on various subjects." Svo.

"Conversations on the Evidences of Christianity," are announced for publication.

Fasciculus Poeticus; or a New Classic Guide to Latin Heroic Verse, 1 vol. 12mo., will be published in January.

Captain Lyon announces, a Brief Narrative of an unsuccessful attempt to reach Repulse

Repulse Bay, through the Welcome, in H. M. S. Griper, in 1824.

The History of the Administration of the Rt. Hon. Henry Pelham, drawn from Authentic Sources; with Private and Original Correspondence, from 1743 to 1754, by William Coxe, F.R.S. F.A.S., Archdeacon of Wilts, &c., will shortly be published in 2 vols. 4to.

Dr. Uwins is about to publish "A Compendium of Medical Theory and Practice," founded on Dr. Cullen's Nosology, in 1 vol. 12mo.

The Plays of Shirley, now first collected and chronologically arranged, with Notes and a Critical Essay, by William Gifford, in 6 vols., are nearly ready.

Dr. Lyall announces for publication early in the month, Travels in Russia, the Crimea, the Caucasus and Georgia, in 2 vols. 8vo.

An elegant topographical work, entitled "Delineations of Gloucestershire" is announced for publication.

The Iliad and Odyssey of Homer, and the Works of Virgil, elegantly and correctly printed, and faithfully rendered into English Prose, with the scanning and copious Notes, by I. W. C. Edwards, M. A. is in the press.

Tales of Ardennes, by H. Derwent Conway, are in the press.

The second volume of Mr. Southey's History of the late War in Spain and Portugal, 4to. is in the press.

The Gil Blas of the Revolution, from the French of M. Picard, will shortly be published.

Sydney Papers; consisting of an unpublished Journal of the Earl of Leicester and original Letters of Algernon Sydney, edited by R. W. Blencowe, M.A., are preparing for publication.

The Memoirs of Pierre du Terrail, the Chevalier de Bayard, the Knight sans peur et sans reproche, 2 vols., post 8vo., will shortly be ready.

Captain A. Gordon Laing, has in the press, Travels through Timanee, Kooranko, and Soolima Countries, to the Sources of Rokella and Niger, in 1822, with a map and plates, 8vo.

Mrs. Taylor, of Ongar, will shortly publish The Itinerary of a Traveller in the Wilderness; addressed to those who are performing the same Journey.

The sixth edition of Pharmacologia, corrected, extended, and continued, by John Ayrton Paris, will soon be ready.

Dr. Paris is likewise printing the Elements of Medical Chemistry; embracing only those branches of Chemical Science which are calculated to illustrate or explain the different Objects of Medecine; and to furnish a Chemical Grammar to the Author's Pharmacologia.

A new Scientific Journal is about to be published in Dublin, under the title of the Dublin Philosophical Journal and Scientific

Review; the first number of which will appear at the beginning of March, and be continued every half-year.

Gaeties and Gravities in Prose and Verse, by one of the Authors of the Rejected Addresses, are in the press.

Signs Before Death, and Authenticated Apparitions, in one hundred Narratives, with a fine Engraving after Hogarth, will be published on the 4th inst.

A valuable and scientific work, translated from the original of Dr. Cappadoce of Amsterdam, a converted Jew, will shortly appear, which combats, with great vigour, the generally-received doctrine of Vaccination.

Fables and Epigrams; with Essays on Fable and Epigram: from the German of Lessing,—should have had more particular notice, if they had come earlier to hand. At present, we have only time to say, that, as the first collection of these playful effusions of their celebrated author, they will be regarded as a valuable accession to our stock of translated literature; that the translation (both prose and verse) appears to be well executed; that the fables are nearly as epigrammatic as the epigrams themselves; and that, of the latter, the complimentary are as pointed as the satyric; as the following examples may shew:—

THE WISE CHILD.

How plain your little darling says "Mama,"
But still she calls you "Doctor," not "Papa."
One thing is clear: your conscientious rib
Has not yet taught the pretty dear to fib.

ON THE STATUE OF CUPID.

Nay, Chloe, gaze not on his form,
Nor think the friendly caution vain;
Those eyes the marble's self may warm,
And look him into life again.

Equally too late, for particular animadversion, came *An Essay on Slavery*: in which its unlawfulness is proved from the Old and New Testament; the state of the negro slaves is investigated; and an equitable plan for their emancipation is proposed; together with miscellaneous observations on the climate and inhabitants of Jamaica. *By an Eye-witness.* We can only, therefore, thus announce it, with a sincere wish that the subject may recommend it to the attention of our readers.

NEW PUBLICATIONS.

ANNUAL WORKS.

The Literary Souvenir, or Cabinet of Poetry; a Romance. Edited by A. A. Watts. 15s.

Friendship's Offering, or the Annual Remembrancer: a Christmas Present, or New Year's Gift, for 1825. 12s.

Dewhirst's Farmer and Grazier's Annual Account-book, folio, 12s.

L'Annuaire Historique, from 1823. 8vo. 18s.

ARCHITECTURE.

Stuart's Dictionary of Architecture, No. I. 6d.

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BIBLIOGRAPHY.

A Catalogue of Books, with their Sizes, Prices, and Publishers; containing the alterations from 1822 to 1824. 2s. 6d.

Cole's Bibliographical Tour from Scarborough to the Library of a Philobiblist.— 8vo. 8s.; large paper, 12s.

BIOGRAPHY.

Memoirs of the Life of John Law, of Lauriston; including an Account of the Mississippi System. By J. H. Wood, Esq. 12mo. 6s.

The Cambrian Plutarch, or Memoirs of Eminent Welshmen. By J. H. Parry, Esq. 8vo. 10s. 6d.

Mounteney's Inquiry relative to the Emperor Napoleon. 8vo. 16s.

CLASSICS.

Alcestes of Euripides, from the Text of Monk; with the Scanning Ordo, and a very literal Translation, by T. W. C. Edwards, M.A. — Also, by the same Author, the Orestes, Medea, Hecuba, and Phœnissæ of Euripides; from the Text of Porson. Likewise, the Prometheus Chained, of Æschylus; from the Text of Blomfield. And the Antigone of Sophocles; from the Text of Brunck. Price, each play, 8s.

DRAMA.

Ravenna, or Italian Love; a Tragedy. 8vo. 3s. 6d.

The Bond; a Dramatic Poem. By Mrs. Charles Gore. 8vo, 5s. 6d.

DOMESTIC ECONOMY, AND USEFUL ARTS.

The Housekeeper's Ledger. By William Kitchener, M.D. 8vo. 4s. 6d.

The Art of Brewing, on Scientific Principles; adapted to the use of Brewers and Private Families. 12mo. 2s. 6d.

Houghton's Wine-cellar Check-Book, on an experienced plan. 7s. 6d.

EDUCATION.

Judices Attici; or, a Guide to the Quantity of the Greek Penultima. 5s.

My Children's Diary; or, Moral of the Passing Hour. 6s. 6d.

A New and Compendious Grammar of the Greek Tongue. By W. Bell. Seventh edition, 4s. 6d.

The Youth's Best Friend; or, Reading no longer a Task; adapted to Children of the Meanest Capacity. By a Member of the Royal Society. 1s. 3d.

Practical Guide to the Composition and Application of the English Language. By Peter Smith, A.M. Post 8vo. 12s.

An Introduction to the Metres of the Greek Tragedians. By a Member of the University of Oxford. 8vo. 3s.

Smith's Art of Drawing. 8vo. 12s.

Sallust; for the Use of Schools. By John Dymock. 18mo. 2s. 6d.

FINE ARTS.

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FOREIGN VARIETIES.

FRANCE.

In the list of New French Patents, we find the following granted to engineers, capitalists, &c., of our own country.

To M. Hanchett, of Versailles, and Mr. Smith, of London, whose domicile at Paris is in the house of Messrs. Daly and Robinson, Rue de Provence, for the importation and improvement of an apparatus, and a process for compressing gas, and for vases and lamps in which it is compressed and consumed in lighting, and also for their valves for allowing the entrance and escape of gas.

Mr. Badnall, resident at Leek, Staffordshire, England, and represented at Paris by M. Truffant, Rue St. Lazare, a third patent of improvement and addition to the patent of importation and improvement granted to him for fifteen years, for machines, apparatus, and processes for tanning, with a saving of time, materials, and labour, hides and skins of all kinds, by forcing the tanning liquor through them by means of pressure.

To Messrs. Fisher and Horton, Engineers and Founders, at West Bromwich, Staffordshire, England, represented by Mr. Brookes, residing in Paris, at No. 119, Rue St. Honoré, for the importation of and improvements in the construction of, boilers and furnaces employed in raising steam for the use of machines of all descriptions.

ITALY.

The beautiful road of Posilippo, begun by the French in 1811, is nearly completed by the Austrians. In trenching these works, tombs have been discovered, con-

taining urns and skeletons, with money placed in their mouths. In Rome, the external circular part of the *Theatre of Pompey* has been discovered, corresponding with many fine remains still seen in the vaults of the Palace Pio; fragments of columns, and a fine mutilated female statue, ten palms in height. It was near this spot that the *Hercules Commodiano*, and the famous Torso, were found, in the time of Julius II.: and the celebrated colossal statue of Ceres and Melpomene.

The captain of an Italian vessel has brought from a voyage into Lapland, an antique bark, in very good preservation, which had been thrown by a storm on those coasts, some hundred years ago. The prow of this vessel represents a head of Medusa, and the poop is adorned with the double figure of a Satyr. The sculptures are very well preserved, and seem to belong to a celebrated epoch in the arts among the ancients.

A great reformation is taking place at Rome, with regard to the general government. The Pope has appointed a committee of the ablest lawyers, to draw up a new code of laws, contained and published under three heads:—"Reformation of the System of Public Administration;" "Reformation of the Civil Procedure;" "Reformation of the Tariff of Taxes in Judicial Proceedings."

A notice has been published in the kingdom of Lombardy and Venice, signifying, that all persons intending to make a pilgrimage to Rome next year, on account of the Jubilee, are to apply for passports to Vienna, and not to the authorities of the kingdom. None, it is said, will be granted, except to persons who are well known, or pilgrims above all suspicion.

SWITZERLAND.

The Council of State of the Canton de Vaud has been induced to prohibit the well-known Joseph Schmid, who had directed, for a long time, the institution of Pestalozzi, at Yverdon, from residing in the canton; and has ordered him to quit it in a few weeks.

RUSSIA.

His Imperial Majesty the Emperor, has granted an exclusive privilege for ten years, to Mr. Matthew Clark, Inspector of the Imperial Iron Foundry, in conjunction with the house of Messrs. William Griffith and Co. in the City of London, to make oil gas erections throughout the Russian dominions.

A chain bridge, the first of the kind in Russia, is about to be constructed over the canal of Molkas: it will be executed after the designs of Colonel Dufour, of Geneva, who has sent to St. Petersburg a beautiful model of that which he erected in his own country last year.

In the department of Cherson is established a village of Jews, engaged in agricultural pursuits, which is recommended as a model

a model to the Jews in Poland. This village, Jese Nahr, in the vicinity of which there are six smaller villages of the same kind, most of them with Hebrew names, is inhabited by about fifty families.

The late storms and inundations have sacrificed many lives at Petersburg, and destroyed property to an immense amount: 7,000 dead bodies have been found, and upwards of 8,000 persons are still missing.

PERSIA.

Letters from Shiras announce, that on the 27th *Chawull* 1239, which answers to

the month of April 1824, there had been an earthquake, which lasted six days and nights without interruption, and which had swallowed up more than half of that unfortunate city, and overthrew the other. Nearly all the inhabitants fell victims to this catastrophe.

Kazroon, a city between Abor Koh, and Shiras, was swallowed up, with almost the whole of its inhabitants, in consequence of the same earthquake. All the mountains surrounding *Kazroon* are levelled by it, and no trace of them now remains.

MEDICAL REPORT.

REPORT of DISEASES and CASUALTIES occurring in the public or private Practice of the Physician who has the care of the Western District of the City Dispensary.

THAN affections of the heart, no maladies are more formidable in their aspect or more difficult in their management; and their occurrence in the practice of the Reporter has been of late especially frequent. When the physician is summoned to disorders of this organ, he is immediately called upon to put several questions to his judgment and discernment, to get a satisfactory solution of which implies no inconsiderable demand upon skill and experience. You have first to ascertain whether the disorder in question be of the heart itself organically and properly, or whether it be a mere sympathetic or symptomatic expression of a disorder in other parts. It is next of the utmost moment to ascertain whether the irregularities of the organ result from a want of propelling energy, from partial spasm in some portion of its fibrous structure, from an undue collection of blood in some of its chambers, from a species of inflammatory action either in its membranes or its substance, or from a fluid poured out into the pericardium or lungs. Then, again, it behoves the practitioner to investigate the evidence of ossification either in the blood-vessels or in the valves of the heart (a state of parts, by the way, very frequently connected with a gouty diathesis); and having ascertained the nature of the complaint, we find a further source of difficulty in fixing upon its precise locality, and this for a very obvious reason—that the different compartments of the organ exist constantly in such relative connexion, that one being brought into morbid being, the other naturally and necessarily partakes of the resulting disturbance. As to practical indications, also, how often does it become a question of the most imperative importance to decide upon promptly, whether stimulus, or a subduction of stimulus, be the demand of the moment; and inconsistent as it may at first appear, you often meet with cases where the fulfilment of both these indications is almost simultaneously required; where to urge on

the circulation to the extremities, or to equalize the flow of blood, is alone to preserve your patient from dropping into the arms of death; but where this measure is best accomplished, in the very first instance, by opening a vein, and thereby soliciting the vital fluid away from the centre and source of circulation. You afterwards add force to request, and in immediate succession to blood-letting, rouse, excite, and support. In this condition of things it is that the carbonate of ammonia often so happily tells as an urging and sustaining power. Many deaths from collapse might probably be prevented by the prompt employment of this important medicinal; and in gouty habits it serves, as the writer believes he has before intimated, a double purpose: for while its stimulating agency is exercised upon the nervous and fibrous, and vascular excitability, its chemical influence, as a corrector of acidity, is brought at the same time efficiently to operate upon spasms connected with, or perhaps actually produced by, acidities in the *primæ viæ*.

All individuals who are conscious of constitutional inclination to irregularities in the movements of the heart, ought to shun sedulously every occasion for calling their passions into more than ordinary excitement; this caution is especially requisite, since it is those who are the subjects of cardiac disorder, whose mental irritability is the most readily worked upon; but much more is in our power, in respect to the regulation of the mind, than some are disposed to admit. Let but the motive be of sufficient force, and the force of passion will yield; unless insanity have deprived us of the freedom of choice: and what motive ought to be more alarmingly sonorous to the ear of conscience, than the reflection that, by giving the mastery of our physical and moral constitution into the hands of passion, we rush into the embrace of disease, and even of death, with a sort of suicidal volition!

D. UWINS, M. D.

Bedford Row; Dec. 28, 1824.

ALPHABETICAL LIST OF BANKRUPTCIES, announced between the 20th of September and the 20th of October 1824; extracted from the London Gazettes.

BANKRUPTCIES. [This Month 99.]

Solicitors' Names are in Parentheses.

- A** Dams, J. Moorfields, cabinet-maker. (Richardson, Walbrook)
- Antrobus, J. Manchester, provision dealer. (Adlington and Co., Bedford-row; and Houghton, Liverpool)
- Archer, J. Gun-street, Spitalfields, factor. (Arnot, West-street, Finsbury-circus)
- Arrowsmith, S. Salford, Lancaster, inn-keeper. (Redhead, Manchester; and Milne and Parry, Temple)
- Aubrey, H. H. Praed-street, Edgeware-road, wine-merchant. (Howard, Cook's-court, Carey-street)
- Badham, J. Clifton, Gloucester, cabinet-maker. (Hinton, Bristol; and Hicks and Brakenbridge, Bartlett's-buildings)
- Ball, P. Mervagissey, Cornwall, merchant. (Goode and Sons, St. Austell; and Goode, Gray's-inn)
- Ball, T. St. Stephen in Bramwell, Cornwall, dealer. (Burnley, Austell)
- Banks, J. and W. Garrod, of Beccles, Suffolk, linen-draper. (Messrs. Bromley, Gray's-inn-square; and Copeman, Chedgrave, Norfolk)
- Biggs, H. and J. Blandford Forum, mercers. (Tillett, Old Jewry)
- Bond, C. Gravesend, victualler. (Saunders and Co., Upper Thames-street)
- Brown, J. Exeter, coachmaker. (Brutton, Exeter; and Brutton, Old Broad-street)
- Burslem, T. Abchurch-lane, wine merchant. (Faris, Surrey-street, Strand)
- Chambers, L. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, spirit merchant. (Seymour, Newcastle; and Bell and Brodrick, Bow-churchyard)
- Clarke, R. Agnes-place, Waterloo-road, coal merchant. (Dickens, Queen-street)
- Cooke, G. Manchester, grocer. (J. Mackinson, Manchester; and W. Mackinson, Middle Temple, London)
- Coppard, J. sen. of Lower Mitcham, drug grinder. (Gregson, Lincoln's-inn-fields)
- Couchman, S. Throgmorton-street, printer. (Gregson and Fonnereau, Angel-court, Throgmorton-street)
- Craddock, A. Albany-road, carpenter. (Brooking, Lombard-street)
- Crossley, J. Holborn-bridge, cheesemonger. (Walker and Co., Basinghall-street)
- Daniel, J. Bedminster, carpenter. (Taylor, Bristol; and Hurd and Johnson, Temple)
- Davenport, H. Heywood, Lancaster, grocer. (Baker, Rochdale; Halsall, Middleton; and Hurd and Johnson, Temple)
- Dimsdale, G. Richmond, Yorkshire, grocer. (Morton and Williamson, Gray's-inn-square, London; and Peacock, Bedale)
- Donabury, R. Bell-lane, mustard manufacturer. (Birkett and Co., Cloak-lane)
- Erwood, W. and R. Crofts, Distaff-lane, paper-stainers. (Gray, Tyson-place, Kingsland-road)
- Faircloth, W. and W. Turk, Great Tower-street, wine-merchant. (Young and Gilbert, Mark-lane)
- Flaherty, T. Bath, tailor. (Jenkins and Abbot, New Inn, London; and Hale, Bath)
- Frampton, W. Wych-street, victualler. (Mahoney, Chancery-lane)
- France, T. Crompton, Lancaster, cotton-spinner. (Hampson, Manchester; and Ellis and Co., Chancery-lane)
- Freeman, J. Reading, coach-proprietor. (Hamilton and Twining, Berwick-street; and Smith, Reading)
- Fuiler, J. Bedford-place, Commercial-road, slater. (Baddeley, Lemon-street)
- Garner, W. Margate, bookseller. (Sheppard and Co., Cloak-lane)
- Giblett, J. Frome, Selwood, clothier. (Miller, Frome; and Hastley, New Bridge-street, Blackfriars)
- Giedhill, J. Halifax, merchant. (Stead, Halifax; and Walker, Lincoln's-inn-fields)
- Good, W. sen. and W. Good, jun. Hythe, Southampton, shipbuilders. (Eicke, Old Broad street)
- Grayburn, W. Nottingham, draper. (Messrs. Taylor, Featherstone-buildings, London; and Payne, Nottingham)
- Grimble, J. Norwich, tailor. (Sewell and Co., Norwich; and Tilbury, Falcon-street)
- Grimwood, R. Rochester, draper. (Gates and Hardwick, Cateaton-street)
- Gritton, P. R. Doncaster, dealer. (Hawkes, Birmingham; and Ellis and Co., Chancery-lane)
- Gwynne, W. Benton, Sussex, dealer. (Sharp, Upper North-place, Gray's-inn-lane)
- Hart, A. Manchester, dealer. (Ainsworth and Crossley, Manchester; and Milne and Parry, Temple)
- Houghton, J. and S. P. Skinner-street, leathersellers (Nind and Cotterill, Throgmorton-street)
- Howell, J. Piccadilly, linendraper. (Jones, Sise-lane)
- Hudson, T. Whitehaven, mercer. (Adamson and Son, Whitehaven; and Clennell, Staple's-inn)
- Huffman, C. Garford-street, Limehouse, shipchandler. (Steel and Nichol, Queen-street, Cheapside)
- Helme, J. Lancaster, victualler. (Creswall, Manchester; and Ellis and Co., Chancery-lane)
- Jackson, C. Barbican, hatter. (Templer, John-street, America-square)
- Jackson, H. W. and W. W. Beaumont, Great Eastcheap, cutlers. (Ashby and Goodman, Token-house-yard)
- James, H. J. Cannon-street, stationer. (Williams, Bond-court, Walbrook)
- Jenkins, W. Christchurch, Southampton, plumber. (Rowden, Christchurch; and Hick and Dean, Gray's-inn)
- Johnson, W. Bedfordbury, draper. (Smith, Basinghall-street)
- Kite, J. and B. Best, Macclesfield-wharf, Shoreditch, coal-merchants. (Young and Vallings, St. Mildred's-court, Poultry)
- Lamb, G. Blackwall, merchant. (Birkett and Co., Cloak-lane)
- Lawson, J. Nottingham, hosier. (Percy, Nottingham; and Long and Austin, Gray's-inn)
- Lee, J. Bocking, innkeeper. (Dark and Michael, Redlion-square)
- Levy, J. Goodman's-fields, feather merchant. (Reynal and Ogle, Austinfriars)
- Lewin, R. Mansell-street, coal merchant. (Spyer, Bartholomew-lane)
- Lingford, T. Sloane-street, draper. (Gates and Hardwick, Cateaton-street)
- Lomas, G. Burslem, Stafford, pawnbroker. (Ward, Burslem; and Wolston, Furnival's-inn)
- Lunn, E. and G. Halifax, Yorkshire, chemists. (Jaques and Battye, New-inn, London; and Hoiroyde, Halifax)
- Mason, G. Northampton, carpenter. (Patten, Hatton-garden)
- Metz, S. Southampton-street, Strand, bill-broker. (Hurrick and Stafford, Buckingham-street)
- Morris, T. Oswestry, mercer. (Minshall and Sabine, Oswestry; and John, Palsgrave-place, Temple-bar)
- O'Hare, J. Chepstow, Monmouth, grocer. (Ballin, Bristol; and Poole and Co., Gray's-inn-lane)
- Parker, W. Hampstead-road, builder. (Paxton, Bow-churchyard)
- Phené, W. jun. Fleet-street, confectioner. (Wood, Bartholomew's-hospital)
- Phillips, J. Bedford-street, Covent-garden, money-scrivener. (Beckett, Golden-square)
- Pickman, J. Shoreditch, grocer. (Robinson, Walbrook)
- Pocock, W. Layton, Essex, cabinetmaker. (Armory and Coles, Throgmorton-street)
- Powell, W. Upper North-place, Gray's-inn-lane-road, plumber. (Dodd, Caroline-street, Bedford-square)
- Radford, S. Chiswell-street, victualler. (Martineau and Malten, Carey-street)
- Rice, C. Bennett circus, tailor. (Tanner, New Basinghall-street)
- Richards, J. Wolverhampton, miller. (Wood, Wolverhampton; and Williams and White, Lincoln's-inn-fields)
- Richards, S. Bristol, boot and shoemaker. (Hinton, Bristol; and Hicks and Brakenbridge, Bartlett's-buildings)
- Rimmer, J. and J. Liverpool, flour and provision-dealers. (Gregory, Liverpool; and John, Palsgrave-place)
- Roberts, J. High Holborn, corn-dealer. (Ford, Great Queen-street, Lincoln's-inn-fields)
- Rolfes, W. G. Fenchurch-street, broker. (Dennett and Co., King's-arms-yard, Coleman-street)
- Seward,

[Jan. 1,

Seward, J. G. Blandford Forum, Dorset, cooper. (Filch, Union-street, Southwark, London; and Crabb, Blandford)

Shaw, T. Southampton, wine-merchant. (Willis and Co., Tokenhouse-yard)

Sidford, G. sen. Bath, linendraper. (Makinson, Middle Temple, London; and Hellings, Bath)

Sims, C. Crown-court, Broad-street, merchant. (Nind and Cotterill, Throgmorton-street)

Smith, T. Heaton Norris, Lancashire, and J. Yates, New-mills, Derby, brass and iron-founders. (Kershaw, Manchester; and Hurd and Johnson, Temple)

Starkey, W. Lower-road, Deptford, butcher. (Young and Gilbert, Mark-lane)

Stephens, W. Alphington and Heavitree, Devon, builder. (Kingdon and Cann, Colyton; and Fairbank, Staple's-inn)

Temple, W. R. Sowerby, York, wine-merchant. (Saunders, Stockton-upon-Tees; and Harris, Norfolk-street, Strand)

Thomas, J. Liverpool, merchant. (Bulmer, Liverpool; and Maugham and Fothergill, Great James-street, Bedford-row)

Thomas, J. Piccadilly, draper. (Beavan, Clifford-street, Bond street)

Thompson, G. F. Wood-street, Cheapside, silk-manufacturer. (Bean, Dyer's-buildings, Holborn)

Townend, J. R. Minorities, hat-manufacturer. (Clabon, Mark-lane)

Wagstaff, T. Bristol, wharfinger. (Langley, Bristol and Rossers, Bartlett's-buildings)

Walker, J. Bishopsgate-street, hardware-man. (Mills, New North-street, Redlion-square)

Weaver, T. Abingdon, Berks, linendraper. (Willis and Co., Tokenhouse-yard, London; and Wilson, Manchester)

Welch, J. Prince's-street, Lambeth, leatherseller. (Watts, Dean-street, Tooley-street)

Williams, J. Kentish-town, coachmaker. (Stevens and Co., Little St. Thomas Apostle)

Wills, W. Sol's-row, Hampstead-road, rectifier. (Mahoney, Chancery-lane)

Wilson, P. Gibson-street, Lambeth-marsh, carpenter. (Patlens, Hatton-garden)

Woods, G. E. Walton, Surrey, chemist. (Young and Gilbert, Mark-lane)

Wragg, T. Islington, brewer. (Stevenson, Great Carter-lane)

Wynne, G. Stafford, shoe-manufacturer. (Keen, Stafford; and Williams and White, Lincoln's-inn)

DIVIDENDS.

Abbott, A. Liverpool, Dec. 28

Armstrong, J. Bristol, Dec. 17

Atkinson, J. Clement's-lane, Lombard-street, Dec. 18

Atkinson, T. Ludgate-hill, Jan. 4

Austin, R. J. Throgmorton-street, Jan. 8

Bailey, J. Liverpool, Dec. 15

Bainbridge, J. Queen-str., Cheapside, Jan. 8

Banks, J. Leeds, Jan. 4

Bannester, B. Southend, Jan. 4

Barton, W. St. Saviour's church-yard, Jan. 11

Becher, C. C. Lothbury, Dec. 4, 11

Benson, J. Lancaster, Jan. 14

Bethel, T. Poole, Dec. 20

Bollon, W. and T. Banbury, Oxford, Jan. 5

Bowmar, J. Goltho, Lincoln, Jan. 20

Brammall, G. Sheffield, Dec. 20

Brown, C. Dundee, Jan. 4

Brown, S. and T. H. Scotts, St. Mary Hill, Dec. 18

Browne, G. B. John-street, Bedford-row, Dec. 4

Burmester, J. W. and C. L. Vidall, London-street, Dec. 18

Calcott, J. Shoreditch, Jan. 22

Campbell and Co., Old Jewry, Jan. 4

Campion, R. Horseleydown-lane, Feb. 5

Carey, J. Raquet-court, Dec. 18

Carver, J. Lancing, Sussex, Dec. 24

Carver, J. and W. Peat, Basinghall-street, Jan. 15

Chandler, J. Sandwich, Jan. 4

Clarke, R. H. St. Mary Hill, Jan. 8

Cleghorn, W. Ratcliff-highway, Dec. 18

Colbeck, T. and Co., York, Dec. 18

Coles, W. Mincing-lane, Dec. 18

Cookson, J. Leeds, Dec. 29

Cooke, J. Barnstaple, Jan. 17

Davis, T. Minorities, Dec. 18

Dicks, J. London-street, Tottenham-court-road, Jan. 4

Edwards, T. Alton, Southampton, Dec. 22

Emery, J. Rosoman-street, Dec. 7

Eveleigh, F. Launceston, Dec. 28

Falkner, F. Manchester, Jan. 7

Forsaith, S. Shoreditch, Dec. 18

Gale, Q. Newgate-market, Dec. 21

Garrod, S. St. Marylebone, Jan. 8

Gibson, J. and S. Foster, Wardrobe-place, Doctors'-commons, Dec. 21

Goulder, C. Dilham, Norfolk, Dec. 27

Gower, T. Weathersfield, Essex, Dec. 23

Grange, J. Piccadilly, Dec. 18

Greaves, J. Sheffield, Dec. 15

Griffiths, A. Swansea, Dec. 22

Harten, G. V. Leadenhall-street, Jan. 8

Hewitt, T. Carlisle, Dec. 22

Holland, H. L. Coventry, Dec. 28

Houlden, R. St. Margaret's-hall, Southwark, Jan. 18

Humphries, W. Nunney, Somerset, Dec. 28

Hunt, G. Leicester-square, Dec. 28

Jones, C. Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, Dec. 21

Jones, E. and J. Norris, Budge-row, Dec. 18

Lansley, W. Andover, Dec. 29

Large, J. Maiden Bradley, Wilts, Dec. 15

Lawton, J. Dobcross within Sadleworth, Dec. 20

Lewis, J. Bristol, Dec. 28

Lewis, T. C. and C. Bevan, High Holborn, Jan. 4

Lingard, J. Manchester, Jan. 8

Lloyd, W. sen. and W. Lloyd, jun. Lower Thames-street, Dec. 18

Lovegrove, R. Aborfield, Jan. 4

Lucas, H. Liverpool, Jan. 11

Lyne, J. and Co., Finsbury-square, Jan. 11

Mann, W. of Thompson, Norfolk, Dec. 18

Maxwell, J. Boston, Jan. 15

Mayor, C. Somerset-street, Portman-square, Dec. 28

Meacher, T. Newport Pagnell, Dec. 30

Mercer, G. Basinghall-st., Jan. 11

Mortimer, J. sen. Cleckheaton, York, Jan. 7

Murray, W. Pallmall-court, Jan. 15

Nantes, H. Warnford-court, Throgmorton-street, Dec. 14

Norris, T. Whitehart-yard, Drury-lane, Dec. 18

Noyes, J. Tooley-street, Dec. 18

Orme, J. sen. Nottingham, Jan. 25

Parke, J. Liverpool, Dec. 14

Payn, T. and J. D. Cateaton-str., Dec. 7

Peere, J. Liverpool, Dec. 30

Piercy, J. and R. Saunders, Birmingham, Jan. 7

Reed, T. High Holborn, Dec. 21

Richardson, W. Horncastle, Dec. 30

Ridsdale, F. Leeds, and W. Hamilton, Finsbury-place, Jan. 4

Robertson, J. Old Broad-street, Dec. 18

Salmon, S. Regent-street, Jan. 15

Sandison, W. Cork-street, Burlington-gardens, Dec. 14

Scarrow, T. jun. and J. Scarrow, Carlisle, Dec. 22

Sharpus, R. Davies-street, Berkeley-square, Dec. 23

Sheath, A. and Co. Boston, Lincoln, Dec. 23

Sherwin, J. and J. Drake, Gould-square, Jan. 15

Shoobridge, G. Cheapside, Jan. 29

Simpson, R. Crown-court, Threadneedle-street, Jan. 4

Skidmore, J. Sheffield, Jan. 12

Slaney, M. A. Shiffnall, Dec. 23

Smallwood, T. Drayton in Hales, Dec. 24

Smith, T. B. and Co., Old Trinity-house, Jan. 8

Sneade, W. Whitechurch, Dec. 18

Squire, L. Earith, Huntingdon, Dec. 28

Sumner, T. Preston, Lancashire, Dec. 23

Thurtell, J. Bradwell, Dec. 18

Topham, J. Great Russell-street, Dec. 18

Wakeman, T. Fleetmarket, Jan. 4

Waterhouse, J. and J. Green, Ropemakers'-street, Dec. 18

Weaver, H. Bristol, Dec. 22

Whiteside, R. Whitehaven, Dec. 31

Willcocks, T. Bath, Dec. 15

Williams, L. Fenchurch-street, Jan. 11

Wilson, M. Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Dec. 30

Wiltshire, J. Wootton Bassett, Wilts, Dec. 15

Windeatt, T. Bridgetown, Devon, Jan. 6

AGRICULTURAL

MONTHLY AGRICULTURAL REPORT.

THE continuance, to this moment, of the equinoctial gales, with deluges of rain, has baffled all weather-wisdom; and could old Francis Moore himself encounter resurrection, he would, under existing circumstances, scarcely venture to prognosticate. Grave countrymen say one unto the other—"whence can all this rain come from?" All that we can say, is, that there must necessarily be a balance of drought at some future period. Winter, and its seasonable frost, are anxiously expected, for drying and giving firmness to the soil and the crops thereon; but a sudden sharp frost would be attended with perilous consequences, to the wheats particularly, and to the common turnips, which would be soon rotted and destroyed. It is argued that, such deluges of rain having fallen, little snow can be expected during the ensuing winter. The public papers still groan under the recital of losses and damages from wind and floods; but, although we of the exposed parts of this fortunate emporium of abundance and happiness have suffered heavily and beyond precedent, our losses and distress bear no comparison with those endured on the continent, more especially at St. Petersburg, where, no doubt, some who have escaped with life, but the loss of all that can render life worth having, in the anguish of despair, have cursed the memory and the commercial cupidity of the saint and the anointed, who could build a city on a site of such extreme peril. The present month affords little to report beyond the contents of our last. We have been eye-witnesses of such an abundance of slugs, as we never before beheld in any season: for the prevention of this pest, the weather has throughout been unfavourable. The young wheats look well, excepting on lands saturated with moisture, where they appear yellow and sickly; large breadths, also, being devoured by the slug. In some few districts, perhaps, one third of the land intended for wheat will not be sown. Early wheat sowing is of great importance, the chances being so uncertain late in the autumn, or early in the winter. The discrepancies in country letters are curious: men judge as they feel. The farmers of distant and poor districts insist that the last crop was deficient both in quantity and quality; that the

young wheats look poorly, and that the general breadth of wheat sown this year will be considerably deficient. Their more fortunate brethren tell a directly opposite story; and the fortunate Scots farmers vouch the last crop of wheat to be beyond an average, and generally of prime quality. The barley and oat crop, even, are said to prove beyond expectations. Our guess was right—the Christmas supplies of wheat have been ample, and prices have given way. The same may be said of Smithfield market. A good shew upon the land, in the spring, must assuredly reduce prices, which, however remunerating and comfortable to the farmer, are still above the wages of the labourer, notwithstanding some advance. Cattle have been, and ought to be, taken to the home fold on all wet lands, where, receiving no benefit, they do much mischief. The weather has been unfavourable for storing potatoes and other roots, a beneficial practice. No general rot of sheep has yet taken place; the marshy parts of Kent have suffered most. Winter tares a most productive and advantageous crop on heavy lands, their culture extending in some parts, and totally neglected in others. The export trade of horses has been carried to an unprecedented extent; equally so, the stealing of them: and the losers, instead of setting their shoulders to the wheel, are kneeling to Jove for that remedy which can only come from themselves. Hops and long wool are on the advance. The Christmas Smithfield market and annual cattle shew were more numerously supplied than in any former year; and the latter, full to stuffing last year, seemed to be more than full in the present. This exhibition is patronized both by town and country, evincing the national taste for the *embonpoint*, the oleose and the luscious.

Smithfield:—Beef, 3s. 3d. to 4s. 8d.—Mutton, 3s. 2d. to 4s. 4d.—Veal, 3s. 2d. to 5s. 4d.—Pork, 4s. 0d. to 5s. 8d.—Raw Fat, 2s. 5½d.

Corn Exchange:—Wheat, 43s. to 72s.—Barley, 30s. to 44s.—Oats, 19s. to 30s.—Bread, (London), 11d. the loaf of 4lb.—Hay, 65s. 0d. to 110s.—Clover do. 84s. to 126s.—Straw 36s. to 45s.

Coals in the Pool, 27s. 6d. to 39s. 0d.—*Middlesex, Dec. 20.*

MONTHLY PRICE-CURRENT.

ALMONDS :—Sweet, per cwt. 12*l.* to 12*l.* 10*s.*Bitter 3*l.* to 4*l.*ALUM per ton 15*l.*ASHES :—Quebec Pot per cwt. 36*s.*United States 42*s.*Quebec Pearl 41*s.*BARILLA :—Teneriffe per ton 18*l.*Carthagea 22*l.* to 23*l.*Alicant 23*l.*Sicily 19*l.*

BRIMSTON :—

Rough per ton 6*l.* 12*s.*

COCOA :—

West-Indian per cwt 55*s.* to 80*s.*Trinidad 75*s.* to 100*s.*Grenada 75*s.* to 100*s.*

Caraccas (none.)

COFFEE :—Jamaica Triage 50*s.* to 54*s.*Jamaica, good 55*s.* to 60*s.*——, fine 62*s.* to 72*s.*——, very fine 82*s.* to 100*s.*Dominica 63*s.* to 90*s.*Berbice 65*s.* to 80*s.*

COTTON :—

West-India, common, per lb. 8*d.* to 9*d.*Grenada 9*d.* to 11*d.*Berbice 9*d.* to 10½*d.*Demerara 10*d.* to 12*d.*Sea Island 13*d.* to 20*d.*New Orleans 8*d.* to 17*d.*Georgia, Bowed 7½*d.* to 9*d.*Bahia 10½*d.* to 11½*d.*Maranham 10½*d.* to 11½*d.*Para 9¾*d.* to 10¾*d.*Mina 8*d.* to 10¾*d.*Pernambucco 11¾*d.* to 12½*d.*Surat 5½*d.* to 7*d.*Madras 5¾*d.* to 7*d.*Bengal 5½*d.* to 6¼*d.*Bourbon 8½*d.* to 12*d.*Smyrna 7½*d.* to 8½*d.*Egyptian 9*d.* to 10*d.*CURRANTS per cwt. 94*s.* to 100*s.*FIGS, Turkey 50*s.* to 53*s.*FLAX, Riga per ton 53*l.* to 54*l.*Druana 48*l.*Petersburgh 47*l.* to 49*l.*HEMP :—Riga 44*l.*Petersburgh 40*l.* to 41*l.*——, half clean 36*l.* to 37*l.*IRON—Petersburgh 23*l.* 10*s.* to 26*l.*British Bar 13*l.* to 13*l.* 10*s.*

INDIGO :—

Caracca Floras, per lb. 11*s.* 6*d.* to 12*s.* 6*d.*Sobra 10*s.* 6*d.* to 11*s.* 6*d.*East-India 10*s.* 6*d.* to 15*s.* 6*d.*OILS :—Palm per cwt. 28*s.* 6*d.* to 30*s.*Whale, Cape, in bond, per ton 25*l.*Galipoli 4½*l.*Lucca per jar 8*l.* 15*s.* to 9*l.*Florence per half-chest 27*s.* to 29*s.*PIMENTO (in Bond) per lb. 9½*d.* to 9¾*d.*PEPPER, do. 5½*d.* to 6*d.*RICE :—East-India.. per cwt. 17*s.* to 20*s.*Carolina 37*s.* to 38*s.* 6*d.*——, old 34*s.* to 35*s.*

SPIRITS (in Bond) :—

Brandy, Cogniac, per gall. 2*s.* 10*d.* to 3*s.*——, Bourdeaux 2*s.* 2*d.*Geneva 1*s.* 10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*Rum, Jamaica 1*s.* 10*d.* to 2*s.* 6*d.*——, Leeward Island.. 1*s.* 4*d.* to 2*s.* 0*d.*SUGAR :—Jamaica .. per cwt. 54*s.* to 70*s.*Demerara, &c. 56*s.* to 70*s.*St. Kitts, Antigua, &c. 55*s.* to 63*s.*

Refined, on board for exportation :

Large Lumps per cwt. 34*s.* to 40*s.*Good and middling 34*s.*Patent fine Loaves 42*s.* to 52*s.*TALLOW, Russia .. per cwt. 36*s.* to 36*s.* 9*d.*TAR, Archangel, per barrel 16*s.*Stockholm 16*s.*TEA, (*E.-India Company's prices*):Bohea per lb. 2*s.* 3*d.* to 2*s.* 5½*d.*Congou 2*s.* 6*d.* to 3*s.* 8*d.*Souchong 3*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 10*d.*Campoi 2*s.* 4*d.* to 3*s.* 10*s.*Twankay 3*s.* 5*d.* to 3*s.* 9*d.*Hyson 3*s.* 10*d.* to 5*s.* 10*d.*Gunpowder 5*s.* 8*d.* to 7*s.* 4*d.*

TOBACCO (in Bond) :—

Maryland, fine yellow, per lb. 1*s.* 6*d.* to 2*s.*Fine colour 5*d.* to 1*s.* 3*d.*Light Brown 3*d.* to 4½*d.*Virginia 3½*d.* to 6*d.*

WINE (in Bond) :—

Old Port per pipe 42*l.* to 46*l.*New do. 30*l.* to 36*l.*Lisbon 20*l.* to 32*l.*Madeira 20*l.* to 40*l.*Calcavello 20*l.* to 60*l.*Sherry per butt 22*l.* to 24*l.*Teneriffe per pipe 22*l.* to 24*l.*Claret per hogshead 20*l.* to 50*l.*

Spanish, Red,

per ton of 252 gallons.. 12*l.* to 18*l.*

MONTHLY COMMERCIAL REPORT.

COTTON.—The arrivals have been very limited, and the demand has continued very good during the past month, and prices gradually improving: Sea Islands have advanced 2*d.* to 3*d.*; other American descriptions from 3*d.* to 4*d.*; and South American from 4*d.* to 1*s.* per lb.—At Liverpool the Sales at the advanced price, in one week, amount to 24,800 Bags.—At Manchester, the orders for South America are considerable for manufactured goods, and consequently speculation in the raw material of Cotton-Wool is extensive.

Sugar.—The market has commenced with considerable briskness, (in consequence of intelligence from St. Petersburg of the loss and damage done to Sugars by inundation) and the importers demand an advance of 2s. per cwt., which was complied with on the part of Refiners for strong working qualities. The public Sales have been very animated, and Sugars of all descriptions have gone off at a considerable advance. Several extensive contracts have been entered into for refined goods, in consequence of the aforesaid inundation in Russia.

Considerable Sales have been effected in Havannah, Brazil, and East-India Sugars, at a full advance of 2s. per cwt. since our last report.

Coffee.—Is very dull, and the sale of the article quite nominal at present. Berbice and Demerara have been bought in, for want of purchasers for exportation; but Jamaicas sold freely at our quotation, principally for home consumption.

Rum, Brandy, and Hollands.—The market for these articles continues without any variation since our last report, and rather more languid than could be expected at this season of the year. Brandies, however, keep up their price, owing to the failure of the last vintage in France.

Irish Provisions.—The prices, which have been advancing for some time back, are now on the decline. The imports of butter, for the week ending 15th instant, from Ireland, are 13,795 firkins; from Holland, 2,750 casks; and from Hamburg, 2,884 casks.

Hemp, Flax, and Tallow.—The advance on Hemp, &c., in consequence of the damage it has sustained by the floods in Russia, is £2 to £3 per ton; and Tallow has advanced 1s. per cwt.

Commercial affairs have lately improved, and the following articles have advanced 10 to 25 per cent., viz. Indigo, Rice, Gum (Senegal and Barbary), Nutmegs, Pepper, Pimento, and other Spices, &c., as noted in the value affixed to each respective article in the columns of Prices. Speculators have shewn an eager inclination to invest extensively in such articles as are low in price, or where the Stocks have been reduced by regular deliveries for Shipping or Consumption, and the following we think deserving the attention of our speculative readers, as possessing some claims either to the one character or the other, namely, Safflower, Saffron, Pot and Pearl Ashes, Resin, Linseed Oil, Coffee, Cochineal, Tallow, Sugar, and Opium; other articles equally favourable may be recommended, but the above occur to us, at the moment, as likely to afford a remunerative profit.

Course of Exchange.—Amsterdam, 12 2.—Hamburgh, 37 0.—Paris, 25 15.—Antwerp, 12 3.—Rotterdam, 12 3.—Bordeaux, 25 45.—Vienna, 10 2.—Madrid, 36—Cadiz, 35½—Gibraltar, 31.—Leghorn, 48¼—Genoa, 44½—Naples, 39—Lisbon, 51—Oporto, 51¼—Dublin, 9½—Cork, 9½.

The 3 per Cent. Reduced, 94¾; 3 per Cent. Consols, 95½; 4 per Cent. 1822, 107¾; New 3¼—100 to 101; Bank Stock, 229½.

Gold in bars, 3l. 17s. 9d. per oz.—New doubloons, 3l. 15s.—Silver in bars, 5s. 9¼d.

Premiums on Shares and Canals, and Joint Stock Companies, at the Office of WOLFE and EDMONDS.—Barnsley CANAL, 345l.—Birmingham, 330l.—Derby, 225l.—Ellesmere and Chester, 100l.—Erewash, 0l.—Forth and Clyde, 600l.—Grand Junction, 290l.—Leeds and Liverpool, 550l.—Mersey and Irwell, 1000l.—Neath, 400l.—Nottingham, 300l.—Oxford, 900l.—Stafford and Worcester, 950.—Trent and Mersey, 2,150l.—Alliance British and Foreign, 19l. 0s.—Guardian, 21l. 10s.—Hope, 6l.—Sun Fire, 220l.—Gas Light Chartered Company, 74l.—City Gas Light Company, 165l.—Phoenix or South London, 14l. pr.—Leeds, 210l.—Liverpool, 250l.

POLITICAL AFFAIRS IN DECEMBER.

GREAT BRITAIN.

If paucity of materials for historical record be, as some have asserted, an argument of national happiness, the preceding has been for England a happy month, for scarcely an incident has occurred important enough to be chronicled; and but little is presented for political animadversion. In the Court of King's Bench, indeed, a decision was pronounced, in the case *DUNCAN v. THWAITES* and others, proprietors of the Morning Herald, which any previous knowledge we thought ourselves possessed of, concerning the Constitu-

tional Law of England, would not have led us to expect; and was supported by arguments, or axioms rather, which, till our ignorance was illuminated by the wisdom of the Bench, we should not have imagined to be calculated for the meridian of a country, one of whose proudest boasts and best securities we had always understood it to be, that every thing connected with the process and administration of justice should be as open to the eye of man as to that of heaven, and be submitted to the most unlimited publicity. It seems, however, that all our notions in this respect were perfectly

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perfectly erroneous;—that the plea, that an alleged libel “consists of nothing more than a true and correct report of proceedings which took place publicly before the justices at Bow-street,” &c., is “a bad plea;” that “it is not lawful for the proprietors of a public journal to publish an account of proceedings taken before a magistrate in the way of inquiry and investigation;” that “the room in which such proceedings take place is either open or not open, as the magistrate should think fit to direct;” * and that the publication of police reports is “to be looked upon as a violation of the criminal jurisprudence of the country.” All this, of course, must be very sound law, very just, and very constitutional, in spite of our old-fashioned notions,—for the Bench has pronounced: and who shall call in question the wisdom, the constitutionality, or the upright independence of the English Bench? The defendants, however, it seems, are not as satisfied as we are with such authority, but mean to appeal to the House of Lords. The subject will therefore, of course, be open to farther discussion.

In the mean time, the approaching meeting of Parliament seems to be looked forward to with little apparent interest, though questions of the highest importance must necessarily, we should suppose, be handled during the sessions:—Negro Slavery; the noble struggles of Greece, and of the South American Republics; the commercial interests, as well as the honest sympathies of the country, with respect to these; the ambitious and evasive policy of Russia; the lamentable and menacing state of Ireland; the new Stock Exchange system, by which the capital of this country is becoming subservient to all the plans of all the governments, which, at no distant period, perhaps, may be in open hostility, and make war upon us with the proceeds of our own funds; the monopolist combinations or joint-stock companies, which seem to threaten the extinction of the intermediate classes, by taking all trades and occupations into the hands of a few great capitalists; and the speculative bubbles, so menacing to the property of deluded individuals, though so profitable to the first projectors, &c.

* It does not appear, however, that the magistrate, in the instance under discussion, had given any directions that the room in which the proceedings were going on should be considered as not open.

There has been some talk (though not distinctively) of new plans of economy with respect to the Funds, and a consequent repeal of several millions of taxes. Some rumours, also, of changes in the cabinet,—of the resignation of Lord Liverpool, and consequent downfall of Mr. Canning. But the latter report, however originated, has passed away.

IRELAND.

In Ireland, we have viewed with pleasure some of the proceedings of the Catholic Association: especially a very sensible address to the peasantry, reprobating all those tumultuary combinations of Whiteboys, Ribbonmen, &c., by which the deluded people have so frequently given pretences for arbitrary laws and regulations; subjected themselves to gibbets and transportations; increased, instead of diminishing their own calamities; and rendered abortive the attempts of their more enlightened friends and advocates, for the redress of the grievances under which their country groans.

Mr. O'Connell, however, on the evening of Monday the 20th December, on his return from the Committee of this Catholic Association, was arrested on the charge of having used seditious and inflammatory language. The charge, it seems, is founded on the solitary evidence of the report in *Saunders's News Letter*; the accuracy of which is not only denied by Mr. O'Connell, and totally unsupported by the evidence of any other of the reporters present; but for the false representations in which Mr. O'Connell has commenced a prosecution against the Editor of that paper. Mr. O'C., however, is held to bail; and suspicions are suggested, that this is a mere manœuvre, to prevent him from coming to England, on his delegated mission, to advocate the claims of Catholic emancipation.

FRANCE.

In France, Charles X. has met the assembled Chambers, and made them a gracious speech; of which the principal features are, indemnity to the emigrants (a prelude, in all probability, to the resumption of the revenues of the clergy), and the continuance of the major part of the French Army of Occupation in

SPAIN:—

Which, with a fanatical and besotted despotism, unworthy of the name of a government,—as merciless as it is imbecile—destitute, at once, of financial resources, of civil organization and military strength, continues to feel all the horrors

horrors of anarchy, and to tremble in the breath of every rumour, with all the guilty fears of retaliative vengeance. Guerilla parties of constitutionalists are said, with probability, to maintain themselves in different parts; and a report, in spite of its improbability, seems to have been believed, of a powerful body of exiles having landed from the opposite coast of Africa, which has been assigned as the reason for the continuance of the French,—equally hated, it should seem, by the Liberal and the Royalist parties. Such is the permanent pacification of Europe, effected by the Holy Alliance.

GERMANY AND RUSSIA,

especially the latter, instead of politics, present us only the most frightful and heart-rending details of devastations by floods, unprecedented, it should seem, since the days of Noah, in the history of the world. On the 19th November, the city of Petersburg was inundated by the overflow of the Neva, to such an extent as must have suggested the apprehension of another universal deluge. The dépôts of merchandise, the public arsenals, &c. have been completely under water, and all their stores destroyed. Ships of great burthen have been stranded in the streets, houses swept down; and but for the general solidity of the buildings there, it seems probable that every trace of human habitation might have been swept away. Whole villages, in the neighbouring country, have been so swept; and it has even been estimated that 15,000 people have perished; while, from the almost total destruction of the means of subsistence, famine seems to stare in the face of the survivors.

Accounts almost as awful have been received from some parts of the north of Germany. In the city of Darmstad, in particular, the inundations rose so suddenly and so high, that the inhabitants had no refuge but on their house-tops, where they sat, in trembling expectation of being swept away by the augmenting deluge.

SOUTH AMERICA.

In those extensive portions of South America, heretofore Spanish, no event of any decisive or discriminative character has occurred. Ferdinand still keeps up the farce of appointing, promoting, and conferring honours upon nominal functionaries of *his* dominions there;

but his warfare, in the way of supplies, seems to go no further.

HAYTI.

The stability of this sable empire, or republic rather, is again to be menaced, if we may credit the following extract of a letter posted at Lloyd's:—

“Portsmouth, Dec. 25.—The Captain of a merchant-vessel, arrived in six weeks from Barbadoes, reports that the French had landed 8,000 troops at St. Domingo.”

Population of Hayti.—The original native population of Hayti, previous to its subjugation by the Spaniards, was estimated, by the Bishop of Las Cases, at 3,000,000. This race has long been extinct; and the island was divided, in the 17th century, between the Spaniards and French. So late as 1798, the Spaniards were estimated at 110,000 free persons, and 15,000 slaves. The French, on the contrary, imported great numbers of slaves from Africa; so that, in 1726, the population of their part of the island was estimated at 100,000 negroes, and 30,000 whites. In 1775, it was estimated by M. Malouet at 300,000 negroes, and 25,000 whites. In 1779, the numeration, as stated by M. Necker, was 249,098 slaves, 7,055 free persons of colour, and 32,650 whites; in all, 288,803 persons. In 1789, the slaves were estimated, by M. Moreau de St. Mery, at 452,000; and by Mr. Bryan Edwards, at 480,000. In the same year, M. Prieur, in the National Assembly, calculated the population, in round numbers, at 500,000 blacks, and 40,000 whites: adding this 540,000, which is probably rather exaggerated, to that of the Spanish part, the utmost amount of the whole, at the commencement of the revolution, could not exceed 665,000. By an actual census, the island, which forms now one Republic is found to contain 935,335 inhabitants. Thus, we see a free black state, of nearly a million of souls, possessing an island which formerly contained three millions, and which is physically capable of containing six millions, established in the immediate vicinity of our most valuable West-India colony. Its population is increasing rapidly, without the aid of importation; but that will not, henceforth, be neglected. The President, Boyer, in a correspondence, in May last, with the New York Society for African Colonization, offers to receive and allot lands, in the course of the present year, to 6,000 blacks and men of colour, from the United States; to pay part of their passage; and to furnish them with agricultural implements. He is, at the same time, promoting public instruction. The armed force of Hayti is fully correspondent to its population.

INCIDENTS,

INCIDENTS, MARRIAGES, AND DEATHS, IN AND NEAR LONDON, &c. *With Biographical Memoirs of distinguished Characters recently deceased.*

NOVEMBER 20.—The case of Henry Fauntleroy, banker, of Berner's Street, who had been found guilty of having forged a power of attorney, and having uttered the same, was argued at the grand jury room at Westminster before the twelve judges, in consequence of the existence of doubt, whether the power of attorney came within the meaning of the act, for the punishment of forgery. The hearing was adjourned till the following day, at the conclusion of which judgment was not publicly given; but it was soon understood that the judges unanimously held the conviction just.

—22.—A tremendous storm, which lasted several days, and which it seems invaded all Europe, committed dreadful ravages in all parts of the kingdom; all the provincial seaport papers teem with melancholy details of shipwrecks, and numerous devastations occasioned by encroachments of the sea. Houses have been swept away, and the inmates carried with them; sheep and cattle, horses, pigs, hay, and farming implements, have sustained a fearful wreck;—and the whole coast from Falmouth to Yarmouth in Norfolk, bears evidence of the extent of the mischief, both at sea and on land. Lyme, in Dorsetshire, has suffered a loss of 30,000*l.*; a man on the Southampton coach, was blown off and killed on the spot; coaches have been overturned, and others unable to proceed from the depth of accumulating water: in fine, desolation stalked abroad, and marked his course with indiscriminating and unrelenting fury. Amongst other places, besides those above-mentioned, the following have suffered in a very great degree: Exeter, Dawlish, Teignmouth, Topsham, Axminster, Yeovil, Waterham, Blandford, Christchurch, Southampton, Hastings, Yarmouth (Isle of Wight), Brighton, Shoreham, Margate, &c. &c. The metropolis felt the effects of the tempest in only a partial manner, and but little injury has been done beyond it to the north and east. Some inland places, however, felt its effects, and several lives have been lost.

In Ireland and Scotland the storms and tempests have also been most disastrous; but our limits prescribe us from entering into any detail of their effects.

—24.—Several of the principal inhabitants of St. Bride's, Fleet Street, met to adopt measures to prevent, if possible, the rebuilding of the houses lately destroyed by fire, which obstructed the view of that noble edifice St. Bride's Church, one of the finest of Sir C. Wren's works. A committee was appointed, who have our hearty wishes for their success.

—28.—The inauguration of the officers

of the London Chemical society, took place at the City of London Tavern, in the presence of a large assemblage of ladies and gentlemen. The chairman informed them the labours of the committee for the formation of the institution had terminated. Dr. Birkbeck then took the chair, and delivered an eloquent introductory lecture, explanatory of the objects of the society, and of the general principle of chemistry.

—30.—Henry Fauntleroy, late partner in the house of Marsh, Stracey, Fauntleroy and Graham, underwent the dreadful sentence of the law; an unusual concourse of people attended to witness his execution.

December 2.—The parishes of St. Botolph Bishopsgate, of St. Gregory, by St. Paul, of St. Giles, Cripplegate, and St. Olaves Hart Street, have held meetings for the purpose of petitioning Parliament to amend the statute of 37th of Henry VIII., under which the claim of 2*s.* 9*d.* is made for tithes.

—3.—A meeting of the Christian Evidence Society took place at the Crown and Anchor, for the purpose of discussing religious topics.

—9.—A new mining company is established under the name of the Imperial Brazilian Mining Association, capital one million sterling.

—9.—A new Gas Company have issued their prospectus, under the title of the Imperial Foreign Gas Company, capital two millions sterling.

—10.—A meeting was held at Messrs. Stewarts, Abingdon Street, for the relief of the suffering inhabitants of the Island of Portland, at which a committee was appointed for conducting the subscriptions in London, and to co-operate with the committees of Portland and Weymouth.

Dissenters Marriages.—On the 5th of December at St. Stephen, Coleman-street, Mr. W. Wood, to Miss Sophia Hodges; this was the first instance of presenting a protest against the marriage ceremony of the church, since the rejection of the Marquis of Lansdown's Bill for the relief of Protestant Dissenters. The protest is grounded on the circumstance of the parties being Protestant Dissenters, commonly known by the name of Free-thinking Christians, who, though the marriage ceremony, as contained in the book of Common Prayer, is contrary to their belief, are compelled to submit to it as the only means of obtaining a legal marriage. It denies 1. The Scripture authority of the Church of England to impose rites and ceremonies on those who dissent from her community; 2. The spiritual authority of the minister by whom the marriage ceremony is performed, believing

—believing the Jewish priesthood to have been superseded by Christianity, and none other to have been instituted by Christ; 3. It denies the belief of the party in the doctrine of the Trinity, in the name of which the marriage ceremony is solemnized.

An abstract of the result of the commitments to the last Old Bailey sessions by the county and city magistrates.

	Conv.	Acq.
Marlborough Street Office ..	31	10
Bow Street	22	9
Hatton Garden	17	7
Worship Street	17	5
Whitechapel	11	6
Mary-la-bonne	11	5
Queen Square	7	5
Thames Police	7	7
County Magistrates	6	4
	129	58

Lord Mayor and Aldermen.. 28 14

Of the above cases—

Mr. Justice Bayley tried	6
Mr. Baron Hullock	5
The Recorder	57
The Common Sergeant	64
Sergeant Arabin	45

MARRIED.

At St. Ann's Church, Westminster, S. M. Lacy, esq. eldest son of Lieut. Col. Lacy, of Salkeld Lodge, Cumberland, to Miss Emily Shade, of Soho-square.

At St. George's, Hanover-square, W. P. Hamond, esq. of Haling Park, Surrey, to Margaret, relict of R. Nicholson, esq. of Bishop's Wearmouth-green, county of Durham.

At St. James's, the Hon. G. R. Trevor, son of the Right Hon. Lord John Dynevor, and M. P., to the Hon. Miss Fitzroy, daughter of Lord Charles Fitzroy.

At St. Clements church, W. Hunter, esq. of Clements Inn, to Catherine Mary, only daughter of T. Webbe, esq. of Cold-bath-square.

At Edgeware, the Rev. P. Felip, vicar of Ledrod, Cardiganshire, to Miss Reed, of Brockley Hill.

The Rev. T. Raven, B.A. to Susan, daughter of S. Horrocks, esq. M.P.

At Mary-la-bonne, R. M. Williams, esq. to Charlotte, daughter and coheirress of the late W. Horsfall, esq. of Norfolk-street, Fitzroy-square.

W. Wood, elder son of J. Wood, esq. of Peale Lodge, Surry, to Ann Ashton, youngest daughter of Dr. Key, of Lombard-street.

At Streatham, W. Wild, esq. to Elizabeth, youngest daughter of J. Harrison, esq. of Balham.

At St. Pancras New Church, J. Homfrey, esq. of Bedweltz House, Monmouthshire, to Margaret Charlotte, second daughter of the late L. Stable, esq. of Hanover-street, Hanover-square.

At St. George's, Hanover-square, R.

Williams, esq. of His Majesty's 44th Regt. to Ann, only daughter of J. Benton, esq. of Houghton House, Northamptonshire.

At St. George's, Hanover-square, E. R. Daniell, esq. of Lincoln's-Inn, to Louisa Catharine, fourth daughter of H. Peters, esq. of Betchworth Castle, Surrey.

At Mary-la-bonne Church, R. Jenkins, esq. to Susannah Elizabeth, daughter of Sir John Frederick, Bart. of Barwood Park, Surrey.

At St. Pancras New Church, J. Gurr, esq. of Kilburn, to Isabella, daughter of the late Captain Maclean.

At St. George's Church, Hanover-square, C. Fitz Adderley, esq. R. N. to Miss S. Browne Staff, of Chelsea.—W. Reader, esq. to Parnell, widow of the late R. Hammond, esq. of Twickenham.

At Clapham Church, James, eldest son of W. Norris, esq. to Ann Elizabeth, youngest daughter of the late Admiral Rothwell.

DIED.

At Ashstead, the Right Hon. Lady Elizabeth Ann Brodrick, wife of the Rev. W. J. Brodrick, and daughter of the Earl of Cardigan.

Miss Dowding, of Mecklenburgh-square.

Charlotte, the wife of J. Delafield, esq. of Camden Hill, Kensington.

At Lysson Grove, near Hackney, 62, T. Leapingwell, esq.

At Northampton-square, Mrs. B. Faulkener, relict of the Rev. W. S. Faulkener, of St. John's Clerkenwell.

At Esher, Surrey, aged 82, Elizabeth, relict of the late Major Abingdon, of Cobham.

At Copt Hall, Hendon, T. Nickoll, esq. formerly Lieut. Col. of the 20th Regt.

In Pall-Mall, aged 4, F. J. Fitzroy Somerset, youngest son of Lord Fitzroy Somerset.

At Westborne Green, Dr. Stephen Pellett, Senior Licentiate of the Royal College of Physicians, aged 78.

The Right Hon. Jane Elizabeth, Countess of Oxford, aged 51.

At his house in the Regent's Park, the Right Hon. Lord Hawke.

At Highbury Terrace, 68, S. Holden, esq.

ECCLESIASTICAL PROMOTIONS.

The Rev. P. N. Shuttleworth, D.D. to the rectory of Foxley, Wilts.

The Rev. J. Fellowes, M.A. to the rectory of Brighton, Norfolk.

The Rev. E. Chaplin is appointed morning reader and evening preacher to the Hon. Society of Gray's Inn.

The Rev. T. H. Elwin, to the rectory of Bradfield, St. Clare, Suffolk.

The Rev. E. Cartwright, to hold the vicarage of Lyminster, with the rectory of Earnly cum Alm Dington, Sussex.

The Rev. E. B. Elliott, M.A. to the vicarage of Tuxford, Nottinghamshire.

The Rev. J. Brasse, B.D. to the vicarage of Stotfold, Bedfordshire.

The Rev. T. Newsome, to hold by dispensation

pensation the vicarage of Tottenham High Cross, with the rectory of Shenley, Herts.

The Rev. Dr. Butcher is appointed Domestic Chaplain to the Marchioness of Hastings.

The Rev. Jos. Bardgate, M.A. to the vicarage of Broughton, Yorkshire.

The Rev. J. Gathorne, A.M. to the vicarage of Tarvin, Cheshire.

The Rev. E. Griffiths, A.B., to the rectory of Trentishoe, Devon.

The Rev. A. A. Colville, M.A. to the perpetual curacy of Market Harborough, Leicestershire.

The Rev. D. S. Singer, to the parish church of Mouswald.

The Rev. J. D. Wingfield, M.A. to the living of Geashill, in the King's County, Ireland.

The Rev. W. Carwithen, M.A. to the rectory of Allhallows on the Wall, Exeter.

The Rev. G. Uppill, to the rectory of Hornblotton, Somerset.

The Rev. L. Clarke, to the vicarage of Downton, Wilts.

The Rev. D. Davis, to the vicarage of Llantarvilly, Carmarthenshire.

The Rev. O'Killvinton, to the vicarage of Snaith, Yorkshire.

The Rev. J. Birt, D.D. to the rectory of St. Alphage, with the vicarage of St. Mary, Northgate, Canterbury.

PROVINCIAL OCCURRENCES,

WITH ALL THE MARRIAGES AND DEATHS;

Furnishing the Domestic and Family History of England for the last Twenty-seven Years.

NORTHUMBERLAND AND DURHAM.

THE Tyne vend of Coals for 1823, was 712,560 Newcastle chaldrons.

A Mechanic's Institution has been formed at Alnwick, of which the Duke of Northumberland is patron, and Lord Grey president.

Married.] At Earsdon, Capt. J. Smith, of North Shields, to Miss Isabella Alder, of Seaton Sluice.—At Newcastle, H. Stodart, esq., R.A., to Jane, youngest daughter of the late M. Culley, esq., of Wark, Northumberland.—At Norton, M. Robinson, esq., of the Middle Temple, to Mary Frances, eldest daughter of H. Stapylton, esq., of Norton.

Died.] At West Auckland, T. S. Sowerby, esq.—At Newcastle, 70, Mrs. Pow.—60, Wm. Kearle, esq.—At Warkworth, 34, Lieut. T. Werge, R.N.—At Durham, 40, Mrs. Ann Robinson.—At Belsay Castle, the lady of Sir Charles M. L. Monck, Bart.—At Durham, 83, C. Ebdon, esq.—Mr. J. Thompson, 22, of Farlam Hall, near Brampton.—At Beacon House, near Sedgfield, 19, Mrs. E. Adamson.—At Killerby, near Darlington, Wm. Clark, esq.—At Morpeth, Delwal Shafts, esq., 56, second son of the late Sir C. Shafts.—At Sunderland, 20, Miss E. B. Hay, daughter of Capt. Hay.—At Throckley Fell, 102, Ann Jamieson, She resided at Bambrough 58 years, and was one of the greatest spinners of the north; and what is remarkable, she has for the last twelve months spun upwards of 40 yards of cloth for the use of her son, although she has been blind for above three years; and it was with great difficulty she could be kept from her wheel on the morning of her death.

CUMBERLAND AND WESTMORELAND.

Married.] At Carlisle, Mr. G. Gale, to Miss M. Blamire, of Kirkandrews-upon-Eden.

Died.] At Dalham Tower, Westmoreland, 77, D. Wilson, esq.—At Kendal, Mr. Brigg, editor of the Kendal Gazette.—A. Dean, 26, Rachael, daughter of the late J. Hetherington, esq.—At Farlam Hall, near Brampton, Cumberland, 22, Mrs. Joseph Thompson.

YORKSHIRE.

The ceremony of placing the first stone of the new edifice, to be called the Central Market, was performed with considerable eclat at Leeds, the 26th Nov. 1824.

The quantity of oil and whalebone brought to Hull this fishing season, is, from Greenland, 871 tuns of oil, and 33½ tons of whalebone. the produce of 81½ fish; from Davis Straits, 2,346 tuns of oil, and 109¾ tons of whalebone.

Married.] At York, Mr. J. Lee, to Miss Ward.—At Selby, Lieut. H. Pitt, R.M., to Miss Mary Staniland.—At Knaresbrough, Mr. Wm. Umpleby, of Heslington, to Miss M. A. Greaves, of High Harrowgate.—At Whitby, Mr. R. Watson, to Eliza Grace, third daughter of John Holt, esq.—At Bradford, the Rev. H. Heap, Vicar of Bradford, to Hannah, eldest daughter of R. Fawcett, esq., of Westbrook House, Bradford.—The Rev. J. Smith, of Kaylingham, to Hannah, eldest daughter of Mr. J. Collinson, of Sculcoates.—At Sheffield, Mr. J. Staniforth, to Eliza, daughter of J. Vickers, esq.

Died.] At Leeds, 37, Sarah, wife of W. Aldam, esq.; Mary, relict of the late Mr. Richardson; Mr. Edmund Thompson; Mr. Watson.—At Riccale, 41, Mrs. Ayres.—Stephen Tempest, esq., of Broughton Hall, near Skipton.—At Leeds, 50, Mrs. Spence.—At North Allerton, Mrs. E. Watson.

LANCASHIRE.

Married.] At Liverpool, Mr. J. S. Billow, of Nottingham, to Miss M. Coates, of Mandale House, near Stockton.—At Saddleworth, T. Mills, esq., of Wood, to Miss Hannah

Hannah Buckley, of New Barn.—At Manchester, Mr. Oldham, of Stockport, to Miss S. Atkinson, of Swinton.—At Manchester, Mr. J. B. Sleddon, of Stockport, to Miss Fearn.—At Liverpool, the Rev. R. Morrison, D.D., of China, to Miss Eliza Armstrong.—At Walton Church, H. Clay, esq., of Burton, in Staffordshire, to Elizabeth, only daughter of the late John Leigh, esq., of Sandhill.—At Rochdale, J. Rudman, esq., of Witworth, aged 73, to Miss Hinchcliffe, of Cragge, near Halifax, aged 39.—At Liverpool, P. M. Roget, M.D. F.R.S., to Mary, only daughter of J. Hobson, esq.

Died.] At Overton, T. Parkinson, esq.—At Manchester, 36, the Rev. J. Ashurst.—At Liverpool, Mary, wife of Mr. Amery, of Pool Hall, Cheshire.—At Liverpool, the Rev. J. Royle, of Bangor.—At Knowles-lane, in the parish of Ashton-under-line, Sarah Booth, who, had she lived, until Christmas last, would have attained the age of 96 years. She had been twice married. By her first husband, to whom she was married 27 years, she had 14 children, the eldest of whom, now living, is 75 years old, and the youngest 56. She was grandmother to 42, great-grandmother to 110, and great-great-grandmother to 7.—James Walsh, esq., in the 57th year of his age, Inspector of Aliens at Gravesend, and Captain of the Flamer, Custom-house-cutter.

CHESHIRE.

A bridge is about to be erected across the Tame, near Stockport.

Married.] John Marsland, esq., eldest son of T. Marsland, esq., of Holly Vale House, to Harriet, eldest daughter of W. M. Higginbotham, esq., of Stockport.—At Chester, Mr. J. Roberts, to Miss C. Williams.—Mr. Oakes, to Miss Bickley.—At Davenham, J. Broadhurst, esq., of Nantwich, to Ann, eldest daughter of the late R. Dutton, esq., of Stanthorn Hall.

Died.] At Frodsham, Sarah, relict of Thos. Urnson, esq., formerly of Swansea.—Isaac Ridgeway, esq., of Broom Edge.—Miss E. Taylor.—At Chester, Mr. S. Kendrick.—Mrs. Foulkes.—At Tatten Hall, 93, Mr. Samuel Dutton. He was the last male in a direct line, of the ancient family of the "Fiddler" Dutton, so much famed in the history of Chester. His father concealed that invaluable piece of music, a fiddle kept as a memorial of the family right under the hearth-stone, in the malt-kiln at Broxton Lower Hall, during the rebellion.—At Chester, R. Travis, esq.—At the Rectory House, Lawton, the Rev. L. Wettenhall.—At Chester, R. Williams, esq.

DERBYSHIRE.

The intended Derbyshire railway will rise from inclined planes to the summit level of 1,000 feet above the Cromford Canal, and then descends 760 to the Peak Forest Canal. The country being very mountainous and irregular, embankments and tunnels will be necessary. The engineer (Mr. Jessop) is confident that the ex-

pense will not average more than £4,000 a mile. It is proposed to use locomotive engines on the inclined planes. The total expense is stated at £150,000, the probable revenue at £16,000. The carriage of coal, lime, stone, timber, and iron, is calculated at one penny per ton per mile, and goods at two-pence per mile.

Married.] At Duffield, Wm. Hodgkin, esq., of Belper, to Mrs. Laander, of Whitmore Hall.—At Sawley, J. Howitt, esq., to Catherine, second daughter of Mr. Lees, both of Long Eaton.—At Shirland, W. B. Blackwell, esq., to Susannah, youngest daughter of Mr. J. B. Bryan.

Died.] At Stretton Hall, 20, Mary, wife of W. C. B. Cave, esq.—At Chesterfield, 77, R. Milnes, esq.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

A society for the discussion of literary and scientific subjects has recently been established in the town of Nottingham. The Rev. R. W. Almond, M.A. is the president of this new institution, and a highly respectable committee have undertaken the management for the ensuing year.

Married.] At Nottingham, George Staunton Lynch, esq., of Duras, county of Galway, to Sarah Jane, third daughter of Francis Hardwick, esq., of this town.—Wm. Trentham, to Lucy, daughter of Mr. Berrey.—At Southwell, H. P. Hulme, esq., son of the Rev. G. Hulme, of Auley, Worcestershire, to Elizabeth, only daughter of the late S. Richmond, esq.

Died.] At Nottingham, 71, Mrs. Oldknow, widow of the late Mr. Alderman Joseph Oldknow.—At Shirebrook, near Mansfield, 80, Mrs. Heath.—At Marton, near Southwell, 103, Dorothy Fletcher.—At Mansfield, 83, Mr. R. Shipman.—At Nottingham, 72, Mr. W. Raynor.—Penelope, wife of the Rev. Quinton Wild, of Costock.

LINCOLNSHIRE.

The late high winds blew down one of the vanes from the broad tower of Lincoln Cathedral, as well as the ponderous ball on which it stood. The ball fell with great force on the roof of the church, making a large aperture in the lead, but was prevented from going through to the stone groined roof below by the strength of the rafters. The vane fell to the ground, near the cloisters. It is the north-east pinnacle which has thus suffered.

Married.] At Grantham, R. H. Thorpe, esq., of Manchester, to Harriet, fourth daughter of the late John Manners, esq.

Died.] Mrs. Bonney, widow of the Rev. H. Bonney, Prebendary of Lincoln.—At Coningsby, 71, Mr. Hill.

LEICESTER AND RUTLAND.

Married.] At Leicester, J. Clarke, esq., of New Parks, to Sarah, only daughter of J. Cottman, esq., of Leicester.—At Nether Broughton, Thomas, eldest son of Thomas Stone, esq., of Barrow-upon-Soar, to Miss Park, grand-daughter of R. Hall, esq.—At Loughborough, Mr. Swan, to Mrs. Peck,

Peck.—At Castle Donington, at the Friends' Meeting-house, J. Whitehead, to Hannah, eldest daughter of the late G. Bot, and widow of C. Watson, of Nottingham.

Died.] At the Parsonage House, Saxby, 79, the Rev. J. Sharpe, rector of that parish.—At Leicester, T. Holl, esq.—Jane, the wife of Mr. J. Barret.

STAFFORDSHIRE.

Died.] At Harbourn, 38, J. Freeman, esq.—62, Samuel Phillips, esq., of Heybridge, near Uttoxeter.—At the Heamies, near Eccleshall, 29, Mr. T. Jenkinson, late of Shrewsbury.—At Uttoxeter, 65, W. Warner, esq.

WARWICKSHIRE.

Married.] At Birmingham, J. Miles, esq., of Wolverhampton, to Ann, second daughter of Baron Thompson, of Chapel Ash.—Mr. J. Hawkins, to Miss Wood.—At Southam, H. T. Chamberlayne, esq., of Stoney Thorpe, to Mary, only child of E. Tones, Esq.

Died.] Elizabeth Isabella, wife of the Rev. Egerton Aden Bagot, of Pope Hayes.—At Clopton House, 75, John Clopton, esq., the last male descendant of the ancient families of Clopton and Ingram, of Wolford.—At Leamington, Sophia, eldest daughter of Sir Geo. Pigot, Bart., of Patshull.—At Stratford-upon-Avon, Frances Isabella, wife of the Rev. J. T. Jones.—30, Thomas Beach, esq., of Spark Hill, near Birmingham.

SHROPSHIRE.

Married.] At Stapleton, Mr. J. Eddowes, of Almond Park, to Susannah, eldest daughter of Mr. W. Oakley.

Died.] Wm. Holt Davison, esq., of the Brand, near Market Drayton.—The Rev. R. Robertson, master of the free grammar school at Hales Owen.—Ann, youngest daughter of the late Rich. Wynn, esq., of Cricketh.—At Kilsall, near Shiffnall, 36, Elizabeth, wife of T. Bishton, esq.—At Shrewsbury, 100, Mr. J. Hutchkiss.—At Ludlow, 80, Anne, relict of J. Ekins, D.D. formerly Dean of Carlisle, &c. &c.

WORCESTERSHIRE.

Extensive new Salt-Works are erecting at Droitwich, and the trade of that ancient borough appears to be greatly on the increase. A toll-free market is to be established, from which many advantages will accrue to the town and neighbourhood.

The new line of road between Evesham and Worcester is now completed: it passes for six miles along the bank of the Avon, through one of the most picturesque and delightful vallies in all the south of our island.

A beautiful new edifice, St. George's chapel, in Kidderminster (erected partly by the aid of parliament, but chiefly by the munificent subscriptions of the inhabitants), was lately opened for divine worship, when two very appropriate sermons were preached. The chapel was crowded to excess at

both services, and the collections at the doors amounted to £141. 3s. 4d. There are nearly 1,500 free sittings for the poor.

The Library at Stourport, though but yet in the third year from its commencement, has acquired a considerable number of volumes. The Cyclopædia of Rees, the historical romances of the author of Waverley, the entire works of Addison, Johnson, Pope, and Swift; Roman History of Gibbon, Plutarch's Lives, Cumberland's British Drama, and various publications in the departments of History, Travels, Biography, Natural History, Literary Journals, Reviews, &c. &c. adorn its shelves.

Married.] At Hallow, Mr. R. Walker, to Hester, daughter of John Walker, esq., of Fox-hill Hermitage, Gloucestershire.—At Droitwich, Mr. T. G. Curtler, to Anne Maria, daughter of Mr. Ricketts.

Died.] At Hanbury, 101, Mr. Jas. Yates.—At Ledgeberrow, near Evesham, 81, the Rev. J. Roberts.—At Worcester, Mrs. Fermer, relict of H. Fermer, esq., of Friterell, Oxfordshire.

HEREFORDSHIRE.

The quantity of cyder produced in Herefordshire this season does not exceed one-third of that of last year. A proportionate advance in price has consequently taken place.

The city of Hereford has been inundated with the most tremendous flood remembered for many years, by the overflowing of the Wye. The cellars have all been filled, and St. Martin's Street laid entirely under water.

Died.] At Warham, 74, Mrs. Theresa Price.—The Rev. T. King, many years pastor of the Independent Congregation in Ross, 74.—At Leominster, B. Caldwell, esq.—At the Moor, near Kington, J. L. Harris, esq., acting magistrate for the county of Hereford.—At Pengethley, near Ross, T. F. Turville, esq., of Clifford's Inn, London.

GLOUCESTER AND MONMOUTH.

The following new roads, facilitating the means of communication between Cheltenham and the towns in its vicinity, will speedily be commenced. A road leading to Cirencester, through Charlton Kings, by Windlass-hill, avoiding the Birdlip-hills. A new line of road to Tewkesbury, passing near Maul's-end, and avoiding Coombe-hill, so as to join the Haw-passage road. A road to Gloucester, commencing with the Colonnade, and with the new Painswick road up to Badgworth-lane, and thence crossing the country to the Golden Pheasant, and entering upon the present road for the remainder of the distance. An alteration in the London road, by avoiding the narrow part of Cudnell.

There was a meeting on the 15th of December at Bristol, at which it was resolved to issue 16,000 shares, of £50 each, for the purpose of forming a railway from Bristol to Gloucester, and thence to Birmingham; and for the purpose of communicating by such

such means with Sheffield, and thence to London. The formation of a rail-road from Bath to Bristol, is also under consideration.

Married.] At Corse, near Gloucester, Mr. G. R. Hudson, of Bampton, Oxon, to Frances, third daughter of T. Hulls, esq., of Corse.—At Cirencester, Mr. E. Hoare, of Sheepscombe, near Painswick, to Miss Cooke, of Cirencester.—At Prestbury, Mr. Hays, of Tewkesbury, to Miss C. Tolley, of Twining.—At Bristol, J. Stevens, esq., of Coombe, near Carmarthen, to Adriana, eldest daughter of J. Edye, esq.—At Newent, the Rev. W. Beale, vicar of Dymock, to Isabella Bishop, relict of Mr. W. Bishop, of Worcester.—At Bristol, Capt. Burgh, of the Bengal Cavalry, to Frances, youngest daughter of Colonel Cox, Royal Artillery.—V. B. Webb, esq., to Miss Toye, of Bellevue, Clifton.—At Clifton, P. George, jun. esq., to Amy, youngest daughter of the late J. Whitchurch, esq., of West-town, Somerset.

Died.] At Bristol, the Rev. H. Bevan, vicar of Congresbury, and rector of Whitton, Radnorshire.—At Clifton, 38, Mary Anne, wife of J. Freeman, esq., of Harborne, Staffordshire.—Sarah Anne Rachel, eldest daughter of T. Commeline, esq., Chamberlain of Gloucester.—At Gloucester, 18, Anne, second daughter of T. St. John, esq.—At Cheltenham, Mrs. Eustace, relict of the late General Eustace.—At Gloucester, Mr. W. Luke.—At Cheltenham, Capt. P. Hunt, R.N.—Captain T. Stopford, R.N.—Mrs. Kingston, relict of Benj. Kingston, esq.—At the Hotwells, W. T. Nedham, esq.—At Caerleon, Monmouthshire, Mrs. Evans, relict of the Rev. J. Evans, vicar of St. Wool's, Newport.

OXFORDSHIRE.

The nearest road from Oxford to London, by near $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, has comparatively been little used, on account of the steep ascent of *Stokenchurch Hill*: this, and other minor impediments of the same kind, will shortly be removed from this road; the line of a new and easy ascent has been staked out, and tenders received for the immense removal of earth necessary to carry the Stokenchurch improvement into effect.

On the 31st Oct. the church of the Holy Trinity, Dorchester, was opened for divine service. This beautiful fabric was crowded in every part.

Married.] At Oxford, C. J. Hutton, esq., of Magdalen-hall, to Mary, daughter of C. Medley, esq., of Faringdon, Berks.—At Oxford, A. Grayson, D.D., Principal of St. Edmund-hall, to Miss C. Winter.

Died.] At Caversham, Major-General Powlett.—At Charlewood-park, near Crawley, J. C. Woodbridge, eldest son of J. Woodbridge, esq.—At Oxford, 64, Mr. R. Smith,

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE AND BERKSHIRE.

Married.] At Marlow, Sir T. F. Freemantle, Bart., of Swanbourne, Bucks, to Miss Nugent, eldest daughter of Sir George

Nugent, Bart., C.C.B., of Westhorpe-house, Great Marlow.—W. Moore, esq., of Littlecot, to Miss M. Fay.—At Sunning-hill, Berks, H. Raper, esq., of Lincoln's-inn, to Georgiana, third daughter of the late J. Moore, esq., of the 3d Dragoon Guards.

Died.] At Bridge Villa, Maidenhead, Ann Dolly, wife of B. Brocas, esq., of Wakefield-house, Berks, and of Beaurepaire.—At Salthill, 32, Anne Sainthill, wife of Capt. R. Thew.—At his house in High-str., 67, Mr. G. Griesbach, late master of the Queen's band at Windsor Castle; Mr. Griesbach also belonged to the band of musicians attached to the court of Hanover. He was sent from Germany, at the age of 22, by his late Majesty's orders, to form a part of the band which the Queen wished to have near her person. His musical knowledge was then extensive; but his late Majesty kindly placed him under the tuition of the celebrated Cramer, to acquire proficiency as a violinist, on which instrument he became a distinguished performer. He was finally appointed master of the Queen's band, and retained this situation till its dissolution after the death of the Queen. As a professor on the piano-forte, he had the honour to count the Princess Charlotte among his pupils.—At High Wycombe, 81, John Hollis, esq., long known for his extensive charities, and liberal benefactions to the indigent of every community.—At Hedgerley-court, 69, Mary, relict of the Rev. R. Morgan, of Jamaica.—At the Rev. J. Beard's, Cranfield Rectory, Bedfordshire, Caroline, youngest daughter of E. Hobson, esq., of Hope-hall, Lancashire.—At Purley, Berks, T. Canning, esq., of Lincoln's inn.

HERTFORD AND BEDFORD.

Married.] At Shefford, Bedfordshire, T. Sandys, esq., to Jane, relict of the late R. B. Long, esq., of the Manor-house, Dawlish, Devonshire.

Died.] At Totteridge park, Captain E. Frost.—At Bishop's Stortford, W. Woodham, esq.

NORTHAMPTON.

Died.] 80, Mrs. Bonney, widow of the Rev. H. K. Bonney, rector of King's-cliff.—At Thenford, 77, Mrs. Ingram.

CAMBRIDGE AND HUNTINGDON.

Dec. 10.—The new buildings, called the "King's Court," in Trinity College, Cambridge, caught fire, occasioned by the stove being too much heated; but, by the timely arrival of the engines, it was soon extinguished. The damage, which was confined to the new buildings, is estimated at £500.

Married.] At Wyton, Hunts, J. Peacock, esq., to Rebecca, only daughter of Mr. J. Blott, of the Manor-house, Wyton.—At St. Ive's, Hunts, the Rev. Mr. Holland, to Elizabeth, only daughter of the late Mr. J. Jennings.—Mr. Prime, of Eversden, to Miss Pitchmarsh, of Wimpole, Cambridge-shire.—The Rev. Mr. G. Dennis, B.A., to Mrs. Townsend, relict of R. W. Townsend, esq., late of Tricketes-hall, Boxted, Suffolk.

—The Rev. C. Wesley, of Christ's College, Cambridge, to Eliza, eldest daughter of J. Skelton, esq., of Hammersmith.—Mr. H. Sweetapple, of Foxcot, near Andover, to Jane, only daughter of J. Moore, esq., of Littlecot, near Devizes.

Died.] At Little Eversden, Cambridgeshire, 75, the Rev. P. Heaton, rector of that parish.—At Cambridge, 21, J. L. Gregson, son of the late M. Gregson, esq., of Liverpool.

NORFOLK.

A company has just been formed, whose object is to effect a regular communication between London and Great Yarmouth, by means of steam vessels, of from 250 to 300 tons burden.

The members of the Norfolk and Norwich Literary Institution are about to form a Museum of Natural History in Norwich.

Married.] At Lakenham, W. Bragge, esq., Captain of the 3d, or King's Own Dragoons, to Margaret, second daughter of J. G. Sparrow, esq., of Gosfield-place, Essex.—At Norwich, T. M. Keith, esq., to Marianne, eldest daughter of J. Blake, esq.—At Thorp, near Norwich, J. Ranking, esq., to Rosa, fifth daughter of Colonel Harvey, of Thorpe-lodge.

SUFFOLK.

A Mechanical Institute is about to be established at Ipswich.

ESSEX.

Married.] At Lexden church, G. H. Errington, esq., to Fanny, eldest daughter of J. Fletcher Mills, esq., of Lexden-park.

Died.] At Upminster, Dr. J. H. Wharvie.—At Pentloe rectory, 31, the Rev. H. T. Bull, rector of that place.—At Purleigh rectory, Frances, wife of the Rev. R. F. Walker.—At Stratford, Frances Isabella, wife of the Rev. J. T. Jones.—Frances, wife of J. Restall, esq., of Wanstead.—At Saffron Walden, 93, W. Archer, esq.

KENT.

Dec. 9.—A meeting took place at Faversham, on the intended River Stour Navigation; when it was agreed to raise the sum of £33,000, in shares of £25.

Lately, some labourers in the employ of F. E. Morrice, esq., in the neighbourhood of Belshanger, dug up a large urn filled with ashes, and the remains of burnt bones; and on another spot, above a quarter of a mile distant, two smaller urns, of the same description, placed side by side, and not above eighteen inches below the surface of the ground. One of the smaller ones only was preserved entire; the larger, which was first discovered, having been unfortunately much broken by the men. The fragments, and a great part of its contents, were, however, afterwards collected. A very large quantity of ashes, and the remains of bones, had previously been dug up, nearly half a mile off, in another direction.

Dec. 2.—A French transport came into Dover harbour, having on board fifty French soldiers from Havre de Grace, destined for

Martinique; but, from the late gales, the ship was drove into this port. As it was found necessary to have her decks and upper works caulked, permission was solicited, and granted, for the troops to occupy a part of the vacant barracks on the heights; and it is an unprecedented occurrence, that the same number of French and English soldiers are now quartered together in a British garrison. The greatest unanimity prevails between them.

The Canterbury and Whitstable Rail-way, was determined on, at a meeting of subscribers, held on the 2d of November; who propose to raise £50,000, in £50 shares; and they calculate, that the tonnage on goods landed from the Thames at Whitstable, and passed along such rail-way, will yield them ample dividends: we wish they may not be herein disappointed, in common with other rail-way adventurers. Those whose object is, to carry coals from the pit, or limestone or free stone from the quarries, to their respective markets or shipping places, are alone, perhaps, secure.

Married.] At Charlton, the Rev. R. Lyneun, A.M., to Elizabeth, second daughter of Mr. T. Colsworth, of Blackheath.—The Rev. W. Barlow, vicar of St. Mary Breden, Canterbury, to Louisa, second daughter of the late R. J. Adeane, Babraham, Cambridgeshire.—At Woolwich, H. G. Baldero, esq., R.E., to Louisa, second daughter of the late A. Lambert, esq.—At Lee, T. Finlayson, esq., of Demerara, to Mary Anne, eldest daughter of T. Fennell, esq.—At Ash, W. Burvill, esq., of St. Margaret, near Dover, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of Mr. T. Solley, of Richborough, near Ash.—At Woolwich, R. Simpson, esq., to Sarah Anne, daughter of Major R. Clarke, R.M.—At Speldhurst, Mr. E. Roe, of Blandford, Dorset, to Marianne, only daughter of J. Prince, esq., of Tunbridge Wells.—At Upper Deal, J. Worsfield, of Dover, to Mary, daughter of H. Belsey, esq.—At Rochester, J. Hulme, esq., of Pery Hill Cliff, to Anne, daughter of the late Col. G. G. Donaldson, of the Guards.

Died.] At Canterbury, 53, the Rev. T. Bennett.—At Cale Hill, 84, H. Durell, esq.—At Langley Farm, 17, Eleanor, eldest daughter of J. Colville, esq.—West, esq., of Rochester.—At Ashford, 65, Mrs. Rhoda Ross, relict of the late A. Ross, esq., of Gibraltar.—At Milton, 57, J. Walsh, esq., Inspector of Aliens at Gravesend.—Mrs. Petley, wife of J. Petley, esq., of Cliffs End, near Ramsgate.—At Gillingham, Mrs. Dann, relict of the late R. Dann, esq.

SUSSEX.

The workmen employed in forming the tunnel under the road at Kemp-town, Brighton, discovered numerous teeth and bones, which have been ascertained to belong to the horse and elephant.

A county hospital and sea-bathing infirmary is about to be established at Brighton, which has the leading characters in Sussex

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as its patrons and most liberal supporters. The Earl of Egremont presided at a meeting on the subject, and subscribed £2,000; Mr. Kemp, £1,000; the Earl of Chichester, £600; and other noblemen and gentlemen, contributed liberally to ensure the certainty of such an institution.

Married.] At Newtimber, H. Butterfield, esq., to Miss C. Wigney, of Newtimber-place.—At Winchelsea, F. G. Spilsbury, esq., of Ball Huye, near Leek, Staffordshire, to Eleanor, daughter of J. E. Wright, esq.—Mr. Philpot, of Brighton, to Miss Clowes, of Chichester.—At West Dean church, J. M. Boswell, esq., of St. David's, Jamaica, to Sarah, second daughter of R. Saxby, esq.

Died.] At Bexhill, 85, Mrs. Ann Moorman, of Old-street, London.—At East Bourne, Lucy, eldest daughter of the Rev. Sir W. May, Bart., of Darley, in Derbyshire.—At Hastings, Julia, wife of the Rev. T. S. Hodges.—At Petworth, G. Sharpe, esq.—At Bersted-lodge, near Bognor, 79, T. Smith, esq.—At Midhurst, 76, W. Barlow, esq.—Sir Harry Goring, Bart., of Highden.—At Brighton, Elizabeth, 34, relict of G. Dunnage, esq.

HAMPSHIRE.

The corporation of Romsey, at the suggestion of their High Steward, Lord Palmerston, have purchased land and buildings of very considerable value, near the church, for the purpose of making a public walk, commanding an advantageous view of that magnificent specimen of Gothic architecture. His Lordship has munificently subscribed £100, in aid of the funds of the corporation, in addition to his larger donation towards the fitting up of the Town-hall; to which Sir Thomas Heathcote, and J. Fleming, esq., have also very handsomely contributed.

At about two o'clock on Monday, 6th December, the shock of an earthquake was felt at Portsmouth and its neighbourhood, as well as at Chichester and Hayling Island. It was very sensibly felt by many at the lower end of the Point at Portsmouth, by the Custom-house, but more particularly at Kingstone Cross. The convulsion was so great there, that one residence was in danger of being rased to the ground. The plates and dishes were all in a gingle; such articles as were suspended moved as a pendulum of a clock, and, indeed, every thing in the house was in great agitation.

Married.] At Clatford, Henry Luard, esq., of Blyborough-hall, Lincolnshire, to Jane, eldest daughter of the late W. Richards, esq., of Clatford.—C. C. O'Neil, Captain of the 44th regiment, to Georgiana Hood, eldest daughter of T. Motley, esq., of Portsmouth.—At Elinge, T. Griffiths, esq., of Bartly-house, near Lyndhurst, to Mrs. Conway, of Southampton.

Died.] At Forton-lodge, near Gosport, 56, T. B. Barrow, esq.—At West Cowes, Mrs. Davy, sen., relict of the late J. Davy, esq.—At Standbridge, near Romsey, Mr. E. Fifield.

WILTSHIRE.

The extensive cloth manufactory of Messrs. Cooper, Brothers and Co. at Staver-ton, near Bradford, Wilts, has been entirely destroyed by fire. The factory was the largest in that part of the county, and more than one thousand persons are now destitute of the means of obtaining a livelihood in consequence of its destruction.

The magnificent structure, Fonthill Abbey, felt severely the effects of the late tempests; glass to the amount of several hundred pounds was destroyed, and upwards of 300 feet of the battlements was thrown down.

The late storms have been very destructive on this coast, Weymouth and its vicinity have felt most severely its dreadful effects; several villages totally destroyed, and many lives lost. The damage sustained amount to an immense sum at Lyme, upwards of £20,000.

Died.] Frances, eldest daughter of James Sutton, esq., of Salisbury.—John Hodding, esq., of Salisbury.

SOMERSETSHIRE.

The late Mrs. Seymour, of Bridgewater, bequeathed £100 to the Infirmary, and £100 to the poor of the Parish of Westonzoyland.

It is proposed to form a rail-road between Bath and Bristol, £30,000 are already subscribed to carry it into execution.

There is an apple-tree in the possession of Levy Star, esq., in the Parish of Cheddar, the fruit of which is, when cut, the one half sweet, the other acid.

The entrance to the lower part of Shepton Mallet is about to be greatly improved by the liberality of T. Jenkins, esq., who has given to the turnpike commissioners a portion of his pleasure grounds, which will enable them to throw a bridge over the river in the valleys, and thus avoid the hill.

The *Gazette* contains a notice of an intended application to Parliament for a Bill for preventing a recurrence of injury by floods in and about the city of Bath.

Married.] At Bath, J. Stephens, esq., of Coombe, near Carmarthen, to Adriana, eldest daughter of the late J. Eyde, esq.—At Wincanton, E. Prentis, esq., of Rochester, to Sarah, second daughter of R. Coome, esq.—At Ilminster, Wm. Speke, esq., to Georgiana Elizabeth, daughter of W. Hanning, esq., of Dillington House, Dorset.—At Bath, J. H. Ravenshaw, esq., of the Hon. E. I. C. Civil Service, to Rosa, daughter of J. Thullier, esq., of Cadif, and of this city.—Rev. Wm. Carey, to Miss Ann Govett, of Stringston.—At Bath, Major Hagge, to Maria, daughter of Lieut.-General Cameron.

Died.] At Bath, Mrs. Pare, relict of S. Pare, esq., of Barbadoes.—At Bath, 62, Wm. Perfect, esq., M.D.—At the Rectory House, Stowey, the Rev. E. Whitley, B.D. Rector of Stowey.—At Bath, Mrs. Lyddon, wife of J. S. Lyddon, esq., of Minehead.—At Week St. Laurence, S. Thomas, esq.—At Bath, Mrs. Benson, relict of the late J. Benson,

Benson, D.D. Prebendary of Canterbury.—At Nowers, Sarah Fisher, wife of Wm. Ancram, esq.—At Bath, Lieut.-Col. Newport, of the 9th Hussars.—Capt. R. Duff, 98th Reg.—Mrs. Evans, widow of Col. K. Evans.—At Col. Shaw's, Widcombe Crescent, Flora Alicia, wife J. H. Deacon, esq., of Wimpole St.—At Bath, Mr. F. Blissett, comedian, many years one of the most popular actors of the Bath Theatre.

DORSETSHIRE.

Died.] At Dorchester, the Rev. H. J. Richman, Rector of the parish of the Holy Trinity in that town, and Mrs. Richman, his wife. Their deaths were occasioned by the falling of part of the roof of their house, during the dreadful tempest. A few minutes before six o'clock a tremendous crash was heard: the inmates immediately hastened to the bed-room of Mr. and Mrs. Richman, but could not open the door. A medical gentleman (Dr. Cooper) residing in the same street, was instantly called; and on his entering, with other persons, the bed-room, they observed a mass of stones and rubbish on the bed, on the removal of which the awful spectacle of two lifeless bodies presented itself: the venerable rector and his amiable wife had both been suffocated. No mark of violence appeared on either of them, with the exception of a slight scar on the forehead of Mrs. Richman. Dr. Cooper was of opinion that their death was instantaneous. Mr. Richman was born at Christchurch, in Hampshire, and received his education at Winchester College: he afterwards resided for several years at Poole; and on the resignation of the Rev. J. Cutler, he was elected Master of the Free Grammar School in Dorchester, the duties of which important situation he discharged with great ability for a period of twenty-three years; during the greater part of which time he also officiated as curate to the Rev. N. Templeman, the rector of the Holy Trinity. On the death of Mr. Templeman, in the year 1813, Mr. Richman was presented by the feoffees to that valuable living. No clergyman was ever more zealous in the discharge of the duties of the pastoral office, and no one could possibly be more loved and esteemed by his parishioners: he died in the 71st year of his age; Mrs. R. was in her 74th year.—At Spetisbury, Charlotte Sophia, daughter of G. Smith, esq.—At Weymouth, 20, Elizabeth Margaret, eldest daughter of L. Vassall, esq., of Brookehouse, near Cheppury, Sudbury.—At Weymouth, J. Crouch, esq., of Codford, St. Peter, Wilts.

DEVONSHIRE.

The new Victualling-office reservoir, to be constructed on the hill near the battery of Stonehouse Point, is to contain 12,000 tons of water, for the use of shipping at the port of Plymouth.

The late storms have been very destructive on this coast. At Star Cross, the damage is estimated at £4,000: at Sidmouth,

the damage sustained equals £20,000. At Plymouth, great damage has been sustained, and, but for the breakwater, the lower part of Plymouth must have been totally destroyed: the damages to vessels at this port exceeds £100,000; many vessels, with their crews, were totally lost.

A public meeting was lately held at Exeter, to consider the propriety of establishing a new market place, when, after considerable discussion, and some opposition by those who are interested in a continuance of the present notorious nuisance, it was decided that the market should be removed to some more convenient spot. At present it is held on each side of the High Street; and it is really astonishing that so oppressive and dangerous a station should so long have been retained for the purpose.

Married.] At Tavistock, Mr. G. Parrott, to Miss J. Hitchens, eldest daughter of Capt. J. Hitchens.—Mr. Durham to Miss Snell.—At Tavistock, Mr. R. P. Trist, to Miss Rowe.

Died.] At Exeter, 14, Chester Henry, eldest son of Dr. Macmollen, of Bridgewater.—At Plymouth, Mrs. Bowden, wife of Captain Bowden, R.N.—At Plymouth, J. Barton, esq.—Mary Ann, second daughter of J. H. Chichester, esq., of Stoke-house and Northover.—At Exeter, 70, Miss E. Osborne.—At Heavitree, near Exeter, 22, Elizabeth, wife of R. Rawlins, esq.—At Teignmouth, 88, Mrs. Langmead, relict of the late P. Langmead, esq., of Hoe-house, Plymouth.—31, Miss E. Strachan, of Devonport.—At Barnstaple, 52, Mrs. M. Troy, wife of Capt. W. Sheppard, R.N.—At Barnstaple, 68, W. Marshall, esq.—Mrs. Pike, relict of S. Pike, esq., Staddon-hill, Apple-dore.—At Marlborough, 85, W. Smith, esq.—At Torquay, Medland, eldest daughter of J. Manley, esq., of Dublin.—Mrs. Otley, the lady of Colonel Otley.

CORNWALL.

At Penzance, the top of the light-house has been carried away by the late storm, and the pier seriously injured; a vessel from Stockholm was totally lost, and all on board perished: the whole line of this coast is covered with wrecks.

Married.] At Gwencap, J. Moore, esq., M.D., of Lincoln's Inn Fields, to Elizabeth, daughter of J. Williams, esq., of Scorrier-house, Cornwall.—At Truro, Capt. Hawkins, R.N., to Mrs. Floyd, of Lemon-st.—At Penzance, Mr. C. Goldsmith, to Maria Eliza, daughter of Lieut. Tregurth, R.N.—At St. Enodur, J. Bamfield, esq., aged 76, to Mary, eldest daughter of T. Manual, esq., aged 40.

Died.] At the house of A. Pierd, Lostwithiel, Miss Fortescue, daughter of Maj. Fortescue.—At Lostwithiel, Mr. W. Phelps.—At Bodmin, Mrs. Hough.—At St. Germoe, Capt. T. Carter.—At Coomb's-head, 100, parish of Stokeclimsland, Mr. W. Hart.—At Camelford, 63, J. Lawrence, esq.—At East Looe, J. Keast, esq.

WALES.

Several parts of Wales, especially in the neighbourhood of the Severn, have suffered much from the inundations at the early part of the month. For some days the mails were prevented from proceeding, and the couriers to whom the letter-bags were entrusted, were occasionally obliged to swim their horses over the flooded high roads.

The upper arch of the celebrated Devil's Bridge, near Hafod, Cardiganshire, is broken down, and impassible by heavy vehicles: a safe and temporary platform has been placed for travellers. The lower arch, and indeed the foundation of this picturesque and extraordinary structure (which is supposed to have been built seven centuries ago by the monks of Strata Florida Abbey), is still secure. The second arch, which overspans the other, was erected in 1753 at the expense of the county; and, in the year 1814, the patriotic Mr. Johnes of Hafod removed the lower parapets of crumbling stonework, and placed in their stead iron hand-rails and ornaments.

Married.] W. Wood, esq., of Dowlais iron-works, Glamorganshire, to Margaret, daughter of the Rev. J. Powell, Lecturer of Monmouth.—J. Lewis, esq., of Cardiff, to Charlotte, eldest daughter of Sir J. Homefray, of Boulogne-sur-Mer.—At Llanwinin, J. Lewis, esq., of Corngafr, to Mary, eldest daughter of B. Griffiths, esq., of Penhenrhin, Caermarthenshire.—At Dale, Mr. V. T. Langworthy, to Mary Ann, eldest daughter of the Rev. J. Upton.—At Morville church, Pembroke, J. Robinson, esq., to Letitia Ann Freeman, of Lambston, Pembroke.

Died.] At Nash, near Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, T. Markham, esq.—At Leeswood, Hull, county of Flint, 70, the Rev. W. H. Eyton.—73, T. Jones, esq., of Brintirion.—At Swansea, 37, J. Terry, esq.—At Llanhiangel, near Cowbridge, Glamorganshire, J. Franklin, esq.—At Denbigh, J. Price, esq.—At Brynllithrig, near St. Asaph, Margaret, relict of the Rev. P. Whitley.—At Danyralli Uwyd, near Aberystwith, Mrs. Hughes, relict of the late J. Hughes, esq.—At Glasbury, Radnorshire, Mr. J. Morgan.—D. Davies, esq., of Lampeter.—At Swansea, Mrs. Collins, relict of the Rev. J. Collins, Rector of Oswich, Glamorganshire.

SCOTLAND.

The following is a statement of the number of black cattle and other animals slaughtered and exposed for sale in Annan market, from the 12th Nov. 1823 to the 12th Nov. 1824; cows and bullocks 358; calves, 236; sheep and lambs, 2,018; and swine, 925.

A prospectus has been issued at Edinburgh, of a projected company of Woolstaplers on a very extensive scale. A capital £500,000 is to be raised, in shares of £25 each; and the object of the projectors is to buy up all the wool grown in Scotland, and submit it to the process of sta-

pling (sorting) before it is sent to England; whereby the Scotch will secure to themselves that profit on the stapling of their wool, which is at present derived by the English woolstaplers. The wool grown in Scotland is estimated in this prospectus at the annual value of two or three millions sterling, and of this three-fourths are sent to England in the raw state, and there stapled. The profits of stapling are calculated at thirty per cent. on the cost of the raw material, and they infer, therefore, that the Scotch allow others to make a profit of at least £300,000 a year on an article of their production, when they might keep all this profit to themselves.

A joint stock company, under the name of the Albyn Company, has been started in Edinburgh, with a capital of £200,000. Its object is to facilitate the investment of capital in fen duties, houses, and other species of heritable property. It is also proposed to establish a Joint Stock Dairy Company in Edinburgh.

Old Coins.—A number of ancient silver coins, in an earthen jar about the size of a quart, were found lately in the globe of the Minster of Inverness, about a foot from the surface. They consist of silver pennies of Henry III., Edward I. and III., coined at London, Lincoln, Canterbury, York, Cambridge, Bristol, Dublin, &c. There are some of the contemporary Scotch kings, Alexander III., Robert I., and David II. The coins are in good preservation, and the date of the latest being 1330, they were probably secreted by the Monks of the Franciscan Monastery, which stood there during the invasion of Edward III., who plundered Inverness in 1336.

Five new projects have lately started at Edinburgh, viz. a Porter Brewery Company, capital £150,000; a Pawnbroking Company, capital £75,000; a Distillery for the English Market, capital £200,000; a Glass-making Company, capital £100,000; a Whale Fishing Company, capital £250,000; and a company, originally projected in Glasgow, for making a Rail-way from Paisley and Glasgow to the City of Edinburgh.

Married.] At Edinburgh, the Right Hon. the Earl of Glasgow, to Miss Julia Sinclair, daughter of Sir John Sinclair, bart.

Died.] At Moffat, Mrs. Lockhead, formerly of Glasgow.—At Dumfries, Robert Whitley, esq.—At Cushet Hill, 66, Dumfriesshire, T. Davidson, Esq.—At Cupar, Fife, the Rev. Dr. Geo. Campbell.

IRELAND.

Discoveries of Coals are said to have been made, by the first inspections which the new Irish Mining Company has caused to be made, at their expense, in the several counties of Roscommon, Leitrim, and Mayo, (we wish some correspondent would favour us with the names and situations of the spots, and other particulars), and also discoveries of metallic ores, in the mountains of Cannamara:

mara: for the working of all which, the company are said to have entered into agreements with the land-owners.

The number of students that entered Trinity College, Dublin, on Monday last, was 131, a number unusually large to enter on one day.

A prospectus has been issued for a provincial banking company, capital two millions, in shares of £100 each.

By the late census it appears that there are, in the city of Dublin, 19,471 females more than males; in Limerick, 2,811; in Waterford, 2,661; in Belfast, 2,537; in Galway town, 1,083; and in Ireland, altogether, there are 117,975 women more than there are men. The only counties in Ireland in which the males outnumber the females, are Kildare, King's County, Meath, Kerry, Galway, and Roscommon.

Died.] At Corrofin, county of Clare,

Margaret, wife of Lieut. McDonnell, late of the 85th Regiment.—At Dublin, Mary, wife of Thomas Tuke, esq., M.D.—At his house near Clare, 38, the very Rev. Dr. Doyles, Pastor of Kilbridge and Horseleap, and Vicar General of the Diocese of Meath.—The Right Rev. Dr. Murphey, Roman Catholic Bishop of Clogher.—At Carrick-on Soar, Mary Banks, in the 107th year of her age. She was the wife of a linen-weaver, and always employed herself in that branch of manufacture. She enjoyed her faculties to the last, and was seen at market for herself a few days prior to her decease. She was the mother of many children,—one of whom, a son, had made her a promise, at his father's decease, not to marry during her lifetime, which promise he faithfully discharged. He is now in the 75th year of his age, and avows his intention to marry after his mother's interment.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

We have to apologise to our valuable correspondent, *Mr. Hampson*, for apparent neglect of his paper on Meteorological Phenomena: it was set up for insertion in our last, but was removed, with several other communications, for want of room; a circumstance which escaped the observation of the Editor, till part of the present number, containing another article on the same subject, was printed off. The requisite attention to variety obliges us, therefore, however reluctantly, to adjourn once more the insertion till the ensuing month.

The reply of *T. L. Williams* to *Mr. Nelson*, which escaped our observation last month, we purposed to have inserted this: but we found, on perusal, that a mistaken apprehension of personal hostility had betrayed the writer into a warmth of language which could not be admitted in our columns. *Mr. W.* may be assured that, in the article he complains of, there was no intention, on the part of the gentleman he is so angry with, either to injure his reputation, or wound his feelings.

A correspondent, who complains that we did him "*severe justice*" on a former occasion, will find that we have paid due attention to his more recent and more finished production; and will, we hope, excuse the liberty we have taken with a single word.

A correspondent, who signs his name (which we will be too tender of him to repeat), has obliged us with a page and a half of *foolscap*, full of hypercriticism on one of the little poems of one of our correspondents; and illustrates his own candour by altering the punctuation so as to confound the sense. What impropriety can there be in saying of a nun, that "the brows that shadowed her dark soft eyes were Love's mourning-pall?" or that "Love was kept, purified of sin, in her placid heart, by Faith?" The critic thinks he could pull the other poem of the same correspondent to pieces in the same way. When he sends us any thing half as good, we will insert his criticisms.

Mr. J. J. Leathwick wishes it to be made known, that he was not the Edmonton correspondent whose poem was rejected from our last. The present Editor never even saw any of *Mr. Leathwick's* poetry, and therefore could not reject it.

"Hints for the Improvement of Mud Carts" should have been sent to the scavengers.

In the signature to the letter of inquiry relative to Short, the portrait-painter, in our last, for TAXEM read TATEM.

The observations of *A. B. C. of Totness*, on a passage in *Mr. Scoresby's Voyage to the Arctic Regions*, came too late for the present number, but shall appear in our next.

We readily comply with the request of *Mr. Lewis Gompertz*, in stating that the article inserted, with his signature, in our last, contains *extracts only* of a longer communication with which he favoured us. In giving connexion to what we deemed it necessary to abridge, some changes in the language may have been inevitable: we are not conscious of any alteration of the sentiment.

We lament exceedingly that the two very valuable communications from our statistical correspondent,—one on the Post-office Revenues, and the other on the Population of Ireland,—came so late as to render it utterly impossible for us to give insertion to either of them this month. We must entreat of our correspondents in general to be early in their communications, as it is impossible for us to do justice either to them or to our readers, if our arrangements are not, in a great measure, made before the middle of the month.